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HANDBOOK FOR TRAVELLERS

IN

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* This sign is prefixed to places and objects of special interest.

A

HANDBOOK FOR TRAVELLERS

IN

SOMERSET

FIFTH EDITION

WITH MAPS AND PLANS

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PREFACE

In former editions Somerset has formed part of a volume in which Wilts and Dorset were also included. It has been thought better to separate these counties in the present issue, and this volume consequently includes only the first-named. The whole has been carefully revised, and the accounts of Wells, Bath, and Bristol have received careful attention; the Editor having to thank Mr. Percy Bate, keeper of the Holburne Art Museum, and Dr. Alfred Harvey, for many valuable suggestions in connection with the last two. To other correspondents too numerous to mention he begs also to express his obligations. The watering-places of Weston-super-Mare and Minehead, with the district around each, have been fully described; and the Editor hopes that an adequate account of this beautiful county will be found within the pages of this book. Corrections and additions for a future edition should be sent to Mr. Murray.

B. C. A. W.

March, 1899.

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HANDBOOK

FOR

SOMERSET

INTRODUCTION

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i. History.

The history of Somerset, as it should be called—for it never was a shire—cannot be satisfactorily written by itself, but must be taken in connection with that of its nearest neighbours, and particularly with that of Wilts and Dorset.

At the time of the Roman invasion, Wiltshire and Somersetshire were occupied by the immigrant Belgæ, whose territory appears to have reached from the woodlands of Berkshire to the Bristol Channel.

We have no details of the Roman conquests in the S.W. of England, but it is probable that Vespasian made himself master of this district, and carried the Imperial eagles over the line of the Wansdyke. The Roman roads that intersected this part of Britain, and the number and extent of remains of military and domestic architecture which it presents, prove a widespread and permanent occupation of the country. It has been thought that a College of Armourers was established by Hadrian at Aquæ Solis (Bath), where it is certain, from the character of the baths and temples, &c., that have been excavated, that the Romans had a populous and opulent colony. Other Roman stations in

the county were Ischalis (Ilchester), Uxela (Bridgwater), and Ad Axium (Uphill, near Weston-super-Mare). The hills show many marks of Roman military occupation, often combined with the strongholds of the earlier inhabitants.

The retirement of the Romans left the country once more in the hands of the native Britons and Romanized Britons, who in the sixth century were called to defend their country against the invading hordes of Cerdic and his sons. "Step by step, from a small settlement on the Hampshire coast, the West Saxons had won their way, fighting battle after battle against the Welsh (the native Britons), and after nearly every battle extending their borders by a new acquisition of territory."—*Freeman.* In 520 the battle of Mons Badonicus (which many place at Badbury Rings, near Wimborne), in which the Britons under Arthur were victorious, gave a temporary check to Cerdic's advance, and led to a treaty between him and Arthur, followed by a period of comparative peace. Cerdic died in 534, and Arthur in 542.—*Guest.* War broke out again, and in 552 Cynric totally defeated at Old Sarum a vast army of Britons raised against him. In 556 the desperate battle of Barbury Hill (near Swindon), fought by Cynric and Ceawlin with the Britons under Aurelius Conan, decided the fate of the country of the Wilsætas, which thenceforward formed part of the kingdom of Wessex. Twenty-one years later (577) the decisive battle of Deorham (Dyrham, in South Gloucestershire), won by Ceawlin the Bretwalda, sealed the fate of South Britain. The Britons lost their three great fortified towns of Gloucester, Cirencester, and Bath, and were thus cut off from their brethren in what we now know as Wales. Divided and weakened, all hope of making head against the enemy was gone. They retired westwards, where, separated from the kingdom of Wessex by the Somersetshire Axe and the forests of Somersetshire and Wiltshire, they long maintained their independence. "This was the last heathen conquest waged by West Saxons against the Britons. During a space of 300 years the conquest still went on. Step by step the English frontier advanced from the Axe to the Parrett, from the Parrett to the Tamar; Taunton at one stage, Exeter at another, were border fortresses against the Welsh enemy."—*Freeman.* Wiltshire saw the sun of its conqueror's prosperity set when at the battle of Wanborough (near Swindon), A.D. 591, Ceawlin was defeated by the Welsh headed by his rebellious nephew Ceolric, and compelled to abdicate his

throne. Two years after he died in exile. This defeat reduced Wessex to a state of great weakness, from which it revived under Cenwealh, who fought with signal success against the Britons at Bradford, A.D. 652, and at "Peonna" (identified by some with Penselwood), A.D. 658, and effected the final subjugation of Somersetshire as far as the Parrett. This victory, which made the district for ever after English ground, was followed by a lasting peace, in which the conquered sat down side by side with the conquerors. Struggles for supremacy now began between Wessex and Mercia. In 675 Wulfhere of Mercia was defeated by Æscwin of Wessex at Great Bedwyn. In 710 Ine marched upon the British king of Dyvnaint, Geraint, the most important of the Celtic princes of the day, whom St. Aldhelm addressed as "the glorious lord of the western realm." The result of Ine's victory was his acquisition of the district of the Tone, whereon he erected a fortress, our modern Taunton. This is still a linguistic borderland, for Mr. Elworthy states, in his "Dialect of West Somerset," that "the people of the little village of Ruishton, only a mile and a half to the E. of Taunton, speak the eastern dialect; while at Bishop's Hull, one mile to the W., they speak the western." Mr. Green has shown that the percentage of place-names whose termination in "ton" shows them to have been of Saxon origin becomes relatively smaller as we cross Somerset from E. to W. This termination, he tells us, N. of the Mendips, in the county which had been won in the early days of West Saxon invasion, bears to all other names the proportion of about a third; between Mendip and Parrett, in the county conquered by Cenwealh, it reaches only a fourth; across the Parrett, but E. of the road from Watchet to Wellington, the proportion decreases to a fifth; and westward of this it becomes rapidly rarer, and varies in different districts from an eighth to a tenth. In 715 a still fiercer battle was fought between the same powers in the same district at Wanborough, between Ine and the forces of Mercia, without any decisive result. The power of Mercia continually increasing, Ethelbald, King of the Mercians, in 733, penetrated into the heart of Wessex, and invested Somerton, which fell under his power, the enfeebled Ethelard being unable to relieve it. About this time also the Western Welsh became troublesome. In 721 they had risen and seized on Taunton in Ine's absence, but his queen recovered it, and rased it to the ground. After Ine's abdication the Welsh succeeded in great

measure in casting off the Saxon yoke, but were reduced to subjection once more by Cuthred in 753. An expiring effort for supremacy on the part of Mercia was effectually crushed in 823, when Egbert defeated Beornwulf, King of the Mercians, at Ellandune. Four years later Mercia submitted to the conqueror, and Egbert assumed the title of Bretwalda.

We now come to the epoch of Danish invasion. These inroads had commenced in the reign of Beohrtric, A.D. 789, on the coast of Dorsetshire. A successful landing took place in 833 at Charmouth. The reigns of the son and grandsons of Egbert were almost wholly taken up by the struggle against these piratical marauders. Ethelred himself was wounded in a battle with the heathen northerners at Melton, and was buried as a saint and martyr at Wimborne. Alfred was summoned from the funeral to meet the Danish army at Ellandune, which has been identified with Allington, near Amesbury, in Wiltshire, but may have been Wilton, where a long and obstinate conflict left the enemy masters of the field. In 876 Wareham was surprised by them. Alfred purchased their retirement, together with a pledge that they would not invade Wessex again. But the next year saw them attacking Wareham, on their retreat from which they fell in with Alfred's fleet near Swanage, and were driven on shore with great loss. The year 878 saw the most tremendous attack on Wessex that had yet been witnessed. With largely increased forces, Guthrum's army from Gloucester burst into the territory of the Wilsætas, took the royal town of Chippenham, from which, as their headquarters, they made themselves masters of the whole country. For the time all seemed lost. The marshes of the Sumersætas alone remained free from their ravages. Thither Alfred retired, and, with the aid of the faithful Somerset thanes, raised a fortress in the Isle of Athelney, strong in its natural defences of morass and forest. At the end of eight months he issued from his fastness, gathered round him a large army, and dealt a crushing blow on the Danish power at Ethandun (either Edington near Westbury, or, perhaps more probably, Edington on the Poldens, near Wedmore). The Northmen were forced to conclude the disgraceful peace of Wedmore, and their leader, Guthrum, had to submit to the rite of baptism, which he received at Aller.

The feeble reign of Ethelred saw the wearying spectacle renewed of incessant landings and skirmishes of the Danes.

In 988 Watchet was attacked; several thanes were killed, but the enemy were at last beaten off. Nine years later (997) they cruelly ravaged Somersetshire, and the next year Dorsetshire. To avenge the atrocious massacre of St. Brice's Day, Swegen invaded England in person in 1003, and after storming and plundering Exeter he marched into Wiltshire, and sacked Old Sarum and Wilton. In 1015 he made Bath his headquarters, where he received the submission of the western thanes. Cnut's first landing in England in 1015 was at Frome Mouth, the port of Wareham, whence he proceeded to harry the shires of Somerset, Dorset, and Wilts, while Ethelred lay sick at Corsham. On Ethelred's death the next year, Wessex acknowledged Edmund as king. The wisdom of their choice was soon confirmed when Edmund's small force met and routed the army of Cnut at Penselwood. In 1051 Bristol, which was rising into importance chiefly as the seat of the Irish slave-trade, was selected by Harold and his brother Leofwine as the place of embarkation for Ireland. On their return in 1052 they landed at Porlock. The men of Somerset and Devon met them in arms, and Harold began his enterprise of deliverance by being compelled to do battle with those he came to deliver. More than 30 thanes and a large number of meaner folk were slain, and Harold returned to his ships victorious, to join his father Earl Godwin's fleet at Portland. The year succeeding the Norman Conquest, 1067, Harold's three sons, who had taken refuge with Dermot, King of Leinster, attempted to enter England by the Avon, but were driven back by the people of Bristol, who knew that domestic tranquillity was essential to their commercial prosperity. In 1086 William the Conqueror held his court at Old Sarum. During the insurrection in support of Duke Robert's claims to the throne of England, under the leadership of Odo of Bayeux, 1087, the district was much distressed by the predatory excursions made by his supporters, Bp. Geoffrey of Coutances and Robert de Mowbray, from Bristol. Their followers burnt Bath and attacked Ilchester, where they were repulsed.

In the 12th century the counties of Wilts, Somerset, and Dorset were the scene of many of the most stirring events during the struggle between Stephen and the Empress Maud. The castle of Bristol was held by Robert Earl of Gloucester, its lord, A.D. 1138, for his half-sister. That city became the headquarters of her partisans, from which they ravaged the

country round, which became a prey to their outrages and depredations. Bath was held alternately by the forces of the two contending parties. Maud's cause was supported by William Louvel at Castle Cary, and William Fitz-John at Harptree. Stephen having vainly attempted to take Bristol by siege, turned his attention to these two castles, both of which surrendered. This success was followed by the submission of Wareham, which had been occupied for Maud in this year. The warlike Bp. Roger of Sarum, the chief builder of castles as well as of churches of his day, was at this time, with his nephews the Bishops of Lincoln and Ely, secretly favouring the Empress's cause, and had furnished his castles of Devizes, Sherborne, Malmesbury, and Sarum with provisions and munitions to support her claims. The three prelates being summoned to a Council at Oxford, 1139, Roger and Bp. Alexander of Lincoln were arrested by Stephen: but Bp. Nigel of Ely escaping, took refuge at Devizes, which, with the other strongholds, was soon surrendered to the King as the price of the liberation of the two captive bishops.

The atrocities and devastation committed by the lords of the castles on their unhappy neighbours were renewed by William of Mohun from his castle of Dunster. Stephen, having vainly attempted to take it by assault, surrounded it by his forces to hold him in check, and succeeded in restoring tranquillity to the harassed district.

In 1139 Baldwin de Redvers landed at Wareham, and occupied Corfe Castle, being speedily followed by Maud and the Earl of Gloucester. From Arundel the empress proceeded by way of Calne to Bristol, where she summoned the barons to her aid, and, as at Gloucester subsequently, assumed royal state and, unfortunately for her hopes of success, more than royal imperiousness. Trowbridge Castle was held by a strong garrison for her by Humphrey de Bohun. The castles of Devizes and Malmesbury, with others, were continually being taken and retaken by the contending parties.

When Stephen was taken prisoner at the battle of Lincoln, A.D. 1141, he was transferred for safe custody to Bristol Castle. Maud, who was now recognised as "Lady of England," celebrated the Easter festival this year in royal state at Wilton. The same year Maud, on her escape from Winchester, fled first to Ludgershall and then to Devizes, and Stephen left his prison by exchange for the Earl of Gloucester, who had been taken at

Stockbridge. Bristol Castle soon became the home of Maud's young son, afterwards Henry II., who remained there for four years. Maud's sovereignty was generally acknowledged by the western counties, A.D. 1143, after the disastrous defeat of the royal forces at Wilton, while Stephen held London and the eastern and central parts. Sherborne, which was regarded as a principal key of the kingdom, was surrendered to her, and at one time she made her temporary home at Devizes. The chief strongholds in Wiltshire being held by the adherents of the contending parties, that district became a prey to rapine, bloodshed, and widespread misery, which was only terminated by the treaty of 1153.

During the 13th and 14th centuries these three counties had a breathing-time, taking little if any share in the events which were shaping our national history. At the period of Jack Cade's rebellion, 1450, the Bp. of Salisbury's tenants rose and barbarously murdered the prelate at Edington. In 1471 Margaret of Anjou and her son landed at Weymouth, and took refuge at Cerne; shortly afterwards Edward IV. passed through Malmesbury on his way to Tewkesbury. In 1497 the peace of the western counties was again disturbed by the invasion of the pretender Perkin Warbeck and his adherents. Being confronted with Henry VII. and his forces at Taunton, Perkin fled, and his forces surrendered to the royal mercy.

In the great civil war of the 17th century the western counties were, with the exception of the great towns, firm in their loyalty to Charles I., and they became the scene of active warfare. In the early part of 1643 the Cornishmen took up arms for the King, defeated the Earl of Stamford at Stratton May 16, and advanced into Somersetshire. Numerous sieges and engagements, with various issue, occurred. In May Wardour Castle was taken by Sir Edw. Hungerford, and garrisoned by Ludlow, but retaken by the royalists in March of the next year. In Sept. the Earl of Essex was unexpectedly attacked on Aldbourne Chase by Charles I. and Prince Rupert, and defeated with great loss. The same year the royalist garrison of Malmesbury surrendered to Sir W. Waller, who had recently made himself master of Chichester; but it was speedily retaken, and in July Waller was defeated at Lansdown, near Bath, and at Devizes a few days afterwards by the royalist general Lord Wilmot. Shortly after this serious loss, Prince Rupert made a fierce attack on Bristol, which surrendered to him in three days.

Corfe Castle sustained a determined but unavailing siege from the Parliamentary forces. The following year the sun of the King's prosperity began to set in the west. Taunton was taken for the Parliament by Colonel Blake, but was soon afterwards invested by the royalist forces. Lyme was besieged by Prince Maurice, whose military reputation was seriously tarnished by the unsuccessful issue of the attack, and in 1645 the Parliamentary forces of the new model, animated by the sternest fanaticism, under the nominal command of Sir Thomas Fairfax, but whose real leader was Cromwell, swept through the west in an unbroken tide of conquest. Sherborne fell after an obstinate defence of 16 days. Taunton, after enduring a siege of the most extreme severity under Goring, was relieved, July 3, by the mere tidings of their approach. Goring was defeated at Langport and Aller Moor July 10; Bridgwater fell July 23, Bath July 30. These successes cooped up the royalist forces in Devonshire and Cornwall, and precluded them from sending any assistance to Charles. They were crowned by the surrender of Bristol, after a very feeble defence by Prince Rupert, Sept. 10. Devizes fell Sept. 23, and Cromwell, having done his work, marched his forces to Donnington. Before this period armed associations of Clubmen had been formed in the western counties, attaching themselves to neither party, with the object of protecting their property and checking the depredations and violence of both armies. A large body of these was routed by Cromwell on Hambledon Hill at the outset of his western campaign, Aug. 4, 1645.

The peace generally prevailing through the Commonwealth was temporarily broken by the abortive insurrection of Penruddock at Salisbury in 1655.

These counties were the theatre of the landing of the Duke of Monmouth, his brief success, and disastrous defeat, followed by "the Bloody Assize" of Judge Jeffreys. Monmouth landed at Lyme June 11, 1685, was proclaimed king at Taunton June 20, marched onwards by Bridgwater June 21, Glastonbury June 22, Wells, Shepton Mallet, with the view of seizing Bristol. Foiled in that hope, and finding the gates of Bath shut against him, he turned towards Wiltshire, and, after a skirmish at Philip's Norton, reached Frome, his forces wearied and dispirited. Without any settled plan of a campaign, he returned to Wells, and re-entered Bridgwater July 2, to sustain a complete overthrow at Sedgemoor July 6. The infamous

cruelties of Kirke and the judicial barbarities of Judge Jeffreys are inseparably connected with Taunton, Dorchester, and the other towns which had the misfortune of welcoming Monmouth.

Three years later these counties witnessed the triumphal progress of William of Orange, and the last feeble attempt of James II. to secure his throne and crown. Having landed at Torbay Nov. 5, 1688, the beginning of December saw William at Salisbury, occupying the same apartments in the episcopal palace that James had left only a few days before, on the resignation of his vain scheme of meeting the invader in the field. The first blood spilt was shed in a skirmish at Wincanton. On Oct. 6 he reached Hungerford, and held a conference with the Royal Commissioners at Littlecote Hall.

The annals of the counties during the last 180 years have been happily uneventful.

ii. Physical Features.

The county, though its physical aspect is much varied, naturally arranges itself in three main divisions, a *central basin* between two *hilly districts*, one on the W., the other on the N.E. The Mendips and Quantocks are the E. and W. boundaries of the central portion, which is in fact coterminous with the physical basin watered by the Parrett, the Brue, and the Axe, or the Bridgwater Level, as it is sometimes called; and contains no elevations other than the low-lying Polden Hills (about 300 feet high and 20 miles long), and such islands as Brent Knoll, Glastonbury Tor, Wearyall Hill, Wells Tor, and the like, rising out of the flat alluvial deposit. It is generally describable as an irregular parallelogram, about 15 miles either way, divided into two parts by the Poldens. The division between the Polden Hills and the Mendips includes Glastonbury turf-moor, while the other division, to the W. of the Polden Hills, contains King's Sedgemoor.

The hilly district on W. consists of the Quantock Hills, of which Will's Neck, the highest point, reaches 1261 feet. The other chief heights are Thorncombe Barrow, Huxley Beacon, Danesborough, Fire Beacon, Bagbarrow Station, Cothelston, and Bancombe Hill. The Quantocks are about 14 miles long, and 4 or 5 wide. The steep escarpment on the western face is in a great measure occupied by woods and plantations. The eastern slope is more gradual, and is intersected by the

beautiful valleys of the Seven Wells and Hunter's Combe. Also in W. are the Brendon Hills, among which are Haddon Hill (1164 feet), and Dunkery Beacon, the highest point in Somerset (1707 feet).

The elevation of Dunkery, though in itself inconsiderable and of an easy gradient, is relatively commanding. From its top you may see right through Somersetshire, from end to end, some 60 miles. The curious physical feature of Central Somerset—islands of hill rising from the flat, such as Brent Knoll, Glastonbury Tor, Brean Down, and Worle Hill—is conspicuous. The entire coast-line from Weston to Lynton is traceable, except where Minehead interrupts it.

The N.E. hilly district is very different in its character from that in the W. With the exception of the Mendips, it does not consist of distinct lines of hill, but of irregularly disposed heights which gradually slope away to the rivers Frome and Avon, which drain the district on the N. The Mendips from Whatley, near Frome, in E., to Brean Down in W., are about 34 miles long, rising in some parts to more than 1000 feet. Their chief heights are Worle Hill, near Weston, Banwell, Sandford, Dolberry, Burrington Ham, Wavering Down, Shutshelve, Blackdown, North Hill, Pen Hill, Milton Hill (above Wells), Maesbury Castle, and Beacon Hill (above Shepton Mallet). The straight sky-line of the Mendips, interrupted in W. by the Cheddar gorge, is one of the most striking features to the eye. The chief of the irregular hills are in the neighbourhood of Bath and Bristol, such as Falkland Knoll, near Norton St. Philip; Lansdown (780 feet), Claverton, Combe, and Odd Downs, near Bath; Dundry (765 feet), Broadfield Down (with its Cleve and Brockley combes), S. of Bristol, and Leigh Down W., with its St. Vincent rocks.

What Dunkery is in the W., Lansdown Racecourse is in the E. The great oolitic escarpment trends thence N.E. along the Cotswolds, S.W. towards the Mendips, which meet it at right angles; due W. the eye rests on the outlier of Dundry; due E. it passes over the N.W. Wiltshire valley to the chalk downs hung like a curtain on the horizon. Along the sea-coast there are not many bold headlands, but rather easy lines of beach and bay, sometimes wooded, as at Quantock's Head, almost to the water-line, or ending in a face of low cliff, as at Watchet and Cleeve. The point of Brean Down, a bold bar of mountain limestone, running

athwart the six miles of sandy beach which begin at Burnham Church, and Minehead Hill, with its tongue-like termination of Hurlstone Point, are exceptions to this series of soft scalloped curves of coast-line.

The watershed-line, sometimes in Somerset, sometimes in Dorset, enters the former county at Alfred's Tower, on the chalk; passes on the oolites between Wincanton and Bruton by Bratton; turns S. at Milborne Port by Purse Caundle and Glanville's Wootton; rejoins the chalk again above Glanville's Wootton, and follows it by Evershot, Corscombe, Mosterton, Shave-lane Hill, Wind-whistle Hill, Chard, Combe St. Nicholas, and the Blackdown Hills on the kindred greensand, where, leaving the cretaceous series, it passes through the new red sandstone to White-ball Hill, through carboniferous limestone at Hockworthy, joins the Devonian rocks at Clayhanger, and so by the Brendon Hills to Dunkery Beacon and Porlock. Thus are the waters which flow through Somerset and Dorset divided between the Bristol and English Channels.

The main system of drainage is that of the central basin watered by the Parrett (the principal river in the county, and rising 1 mile beyond its S. border), with its tributaries:—1. The Ile on the left bank; 2. The Yeo (one source being in Dorset, and the other in Somerset) on the right bank; 3. The Tone (rising in the S. slope of Brendon Hill, and flowing through Taunton Dene) on the left bank; 4. The Cary (rising near Castle Cary) on the right bank. The Brue, also rising on the border of Dorset and Somerset, and flowing by Bruton and Glastonbury, cannot be truly called a tributary of the Parrett, but empties into the same estuary as that river, from which it is separated by the low line of the Poldens. The Axe may be said to be appurtenant to the Mendips, rising in Wookey Hole, flowing at their foot, and passing into the Bristol Channel between Uphill and Brean Down.

The W. hills are watered by the brooks which flow into the sea at Watchet, Dunster, and Porlock. The two sources of the Exe (the Barle and the Exe) are in Exmoor, on the very confines of the county. The N.E. district is drained by the Avon and its tributaries. On entering the county, and before reaching Bath, it receives the Box Brook, the Midford Brook, and the Frome. The Chew joins below Bath above Keynsham.

iii. Geology.

The geology of Somersetshire includes specimens of nearly all the formations which appear on the surface of England from Wales to Norfolk—the Devonian in the hills of Exmoor, Brendon, and Quantock; the old red sandstone and mountain limestone in Mendip; the coal-measures among the hills S. of Bath; the new red sandstone and marls in the vale of Taunton Dene and at the base of many of the hills; the lias, which bounds the Bridgwater Level like a sea-cliff, or rises out of it in patches like islands, as Brent Knoll; the oolite formations, extending over the S. and E. of the county; the greensand and chalk, which appear yet further S. in the Crewkerne and Chard hills, in the Blackdown Hills E. of Bruton, and in the tableland between Somerset and Devon; and, lastly, an extensive alluvial deposit, partly covered by peat and fen land, which fills up the Bridgwater Flat.

This alluvial deposit is partly *marine* (though this part is small and intermittent), flat mud-banks by the sea-shore, such as the Bridgwater Flat, properly so called, but chiefly *estuarine* and *fluviatile*, such as the Burnham Level, Huntspill Level, the flats from Portishead to Aust Passage, Nailsea and Kenn moors, and others, which extend from Weston to the inland ranges.

The chalk formation in Somerset occurs but in three outlying patches, extending into the county from Wilts and Dorset, one of greensand just capped with chalk (Roddenbury Hill) on the E. side of the Somerset and Weymouth Railway between Frome and Bruton; another more considerable, of which Cricket St. Thomas is the centre, to the W. of Crewkerne, separated by the tributaries of the Axe from the third and larger mass of chalk and greensand, which occupies the country about Chard, and extends over the Blackdown Hills. In the upper greensand are found concretionary layers 12 or 18 feet thick, affording the scythe and hone stones which form an important branch of manufacture, and are sent all over the kingdom. The Oxford clay occupies a considerable extent of the eastern part of the county, from Standerwick, E. of Frome, to Henstridge and Stalbridge, though nearly cut into two parts at Wincanton by the approximation of the cornbrash and coral rag. The lower oolites are found in the isolated hill of Dundry in the N., in the district round Bath, descending in a band, more or less interrupted

and irregular, between the Oxford clay and the lias, entering Dorset between Stalbridge and Sherborne, and passing to the S. by Yeovil and South Petherton as far as Ilminster. They make elevations rounded or flat-topped, such as Dundry, crowned by its church, Lansdown to the N. of Bath, Odd Down to the S. of it, Small Down N.E. of Evercreech, and Cadbury Castle, both of which last, capped with entrenchments, overlook the vale land of Mid-Somerset. The lias occupies an important position in the centre of the county; the flat lands around Dundry, Keynsham, Bath, Timsbury, Stone Easton, N. and S. of the Mendips, Shepton Mallet, Pilton, Glastonbury, Somerton, Curry Rivell, are a large semicircle of places on the N. edge of the lower lias, which stretches back to the S. as far as Bruton, Castle Cary, Yeovil, Crewkerne, and Ilminster. The Poldens are a tongue of lower lias mounds rather than hills; while there are upper lias elevations in the Pennards, Glastonbury Tor, Brent Knoll, and the higher grounds about Yeovil, South Petherton, and Ilminster, all more or less outliers which indicate in their isolation the extensive denudation to which this whole district has been subjected.

"The district round Ilminster presents considerable variety in its geological character. A bird's-eye view, taken from N.W. of the town, would show at no great distance the lofty range of the Quantocks of Devonian age, while at their base, stretching towards Ilminster, might be found the variegated and red marls of the Keuper. On these, 5 miles distant, at Beer Crowcombe, are Rhætic beds. Resting on the latter succeed the Saurian and other limestones and marls of the lower lias, which, though in great part covered by drift, reach to the foot of the hill W. of Ilminster. Within half a mile E. the middle and upper lias, on which the observer stands, may be seen passing under the oolitic sands and the inferior oolite, while 2 or 3 miles to the S. the latter are covered by the range of greensand and chalk, which, passing from the neighbourhood of Crewkerne round Chard, is then continued in the Blackdown Hills of Devonshire. . . . The best districts for a study of the upper members of the Triassic group in the W. of England are along the numerous escarpments bounding the moorlands of Wedmore, S.W. of the Mendips, along the whole line of the Polden Hills to Bridgwater, and again from Compton Dundon by way of Somerton, Langport, and Hatch Beauchamp, towards Taunton. Throughout the greater part of these districts the lower lias occupies the

tableland, the Rhætic beds coming in immediately beneath, and skirting the edge of the escarpments."—*C. Moore.*

The stones in the lower lias are quarried; the large flat slabs at Kineton are used as sides to cowsheds or piggeries, floors to barns and farm-kitchens, and pavements to streets; there is a fine-grained blue limestone, which will take a polish, and is handsomely marked; below it is a bed of hard whitish limestone or white lias, belonging to the Rhætic beds, which is used for mantelpieces by us, and was fashioned by the Romans into the tesseræ of tessellated floors. Cotham or "landscape" marble occurs in the Somersetshire Rhætic.

An important section in the railway cutting at Queen Camel shows a succession of 260 beds, 375 feet thick, every one of which may be identified, and where at one view is seen the passage upward of the Keuper, Rhætic, and Liassic beds. "The distinction between the two last is so marked, that you may at once place your hand on the uppermost Rhætic white lias. It extends uninterruptedly from Lyme Regis throughout Somersetshire, and a geologist travelling by express train may readily detect it in the railway cutting at Saltford, near Bath.—*C. Moore.*

The new red sandstones (Bunter and Keuper) occupy the country between Dundry and the Mendips; the Upper Yeo and the Chew flow through them. Crossing the Mendips on the S. of the range, they contain Wells, Westbury, Cheddar, and Axbridge; then, running along the southern base of the Poldens and bordering the lias, they envelop the Quantocks, extend to the N. beyond Minehead and Porlock, occupy the country of which Taunton and Wellington are the centres, and finally leave the county, wrapping round the edge of the Blackdown Hills, and filling a great part of the fine vales which are seen stretching in every direction from those heights. The "Wonder-stone" is a beautiful breccia found in the new red marl near Wells. The dolomitic conglomerate is found at Bristol, in patches N. and S. of the Mendips, and at Milverton. It has yielded iron ore (Mendips), marl (Chew), and lead and zinc (Mendips).

The Somersetshire coalfield extends from Bristol to the neighbourhood of Frome on the one hand, and from the suburbs of Bath to the Mendip Hills on the other, covering in all an area of about 150 square miles; the chief pits are in the Nailsea (now out of work), the Radstock, and Paulton districts. Coleford, N. of Leigh-on-Mendip, rests on a band of the millstone

grit, nowhere a quarter of a mile broad. The northern part of the Bristol and Somersetshire coalfield forms a trough lying N. and S., narrowing towards its northern limits, and expanding towards the opposite direction, till E. of Bristol it reaches a width of 7 miles; the beds rise at high angles along and beyond the edge of the basin. S. of Bristol the boundary of the coalfield, marked by the range of the limestone hills, sweeps round to the westward, and is lost under the sea beyond Nailsea Moor, near Clevedon, in Somersetshire. S. of this the coal-measures underlie the Liassic formation of Dundry Hill, and encircle the large mass of carboniferous limestones near Congresbury. Over the greater part of this area the coal-formation is buried at moderate depths under newer horizontal strata, new red sandstone, lias, and oolites. An isolated patch of coal-measure occurs at Nailsea.

The carboniferous limestone is one of the most striking formations in the county; in the N. it occurs on the coast from Portishead to Clevedon, then turning E. to Leigh Down, and bending in a northerly direction, leaves the county at Leigh Woods, where it is pierced by the gorge of the Avon. There is a group of limestone hills between Blackwell and Wrington, where igneous rocks have been found amongst the limestone; but the great stretch of this rock is in the Mendips, from Frome on the E. to Brean Down, Worle Hill, and Middle Hope, on the W. by the sea, continued to the Flat and Steep Holms now actually in the sea, and to different points in Glamorganshire on the other side of it. The limestone is full of caves and fissures, produced by the action of rain-water full of carbonic acid gas dissolving its substance; and in several of these cavities bones of extinct animals have been found, as at Banwell and Wookey Hole. From one fissure 29 teeth of the mammal Microlestes Moorei were obtained, and 70,000 teeth of Acrodus, a fish. The carboniferous limestone is quarried in the Mendips and sold as Mendip granite. The old red sandstone is seen at Little Elm, on the E. extremity of the Mendips, whence it is continued W. for some miles, and is the oldest formation and most elevated portion of this range. Its largest development is N. of Shepton Mallet and Cranmore. and, again, on North Hill and Blackdown.

The backbone of the Mendips, corresponding to what is now called the "Ridgeway," consists of Old Red, containing igneous rocks N.E. of Shepton Mallet and at Stoke Lane, and extends from Shepton Mallet on E. to Whatley on W. Against this

saddleback rests carboniferous limestone at a great angle, in some places vertical. To this succeed the coal-measures at the same angle, with numerous faults running through them; Old Red, Rhætic, and Liassic beds are successively deposited horizontally on the upturned edges of the limestone. The mighty agent which caused this disturbance, and uplifted these formations, some 20,000 feet thick, in one place upheaving and doubling back the coal-measures on themselves, so that the coal is worked *beneath* carboniferous limestone, was a volcanic dyke, of which the discovery belongs to Mr. Moore. It emerges from beneath the old red sandstone at E. end, near Stoke Lane; and E. and W. of a line of which that place is the centre there is for a distance of 7 miles an uninterrupted anticlinal. From the general physical character of the Mendips, the dyke is probably coextensive with the range.

To old red sandstone also belongs all the country W. of Stogumber and Wiveliscombe, including Haddon Down, Brendon and Croydon hills, and so westward to Exmoor. Between the north hill of Minehead and Dulverton practically the whole of the Devonian sequence of Exmoor is crossed. As marine fossils occur in the sandstone of the Quantocks, it is better to describe them as belonging to the Devonian or marine equivalent of the old red sandstone, instead of actually to the latter, as is often done.

The geological collections at Bristol, Taunton, and Bath, should be visited, particularly the latter, which owes its existence and excellence to Mr. C. Moore, a distinguished geologist.

iv. Description; Communications; Industrial Resources.

Somerset, in Domesday *Sumersete*, derives its name from its early inhabitants, the Sumersætas. It is a maritime county, bounded on the N.W. by the Bristol Channel, on the S.W. by Devonshire, on the S.E. and S. by Dorsetshire, and on the E. by Wiltshire. Its form is so irregular that it is difficult to give any just estimate of its length and breadth. It comprises an area of 1,045,166 acres, or 1633 sq. m. Its population was in 1871 482,652 persons, in 1881 469,109, and in 1891 438,710.

Somersetshire is rich in agricultural produce. Its dairy-farms are celebrated, and its cheese, especially that which takes its

name from Cheddar, of high excellence. The warmer valleys, especially towards the W., near Taunton, abound in orchards, and a large quantity of cider is produced. The principal manufactures are those of woollen cloth, worsted, and silk, at Frome, Taunton, Twerton, and Wellington; of gloves at Yeovil, Stoke, Martock, and Taunton; of lace at Chard; of linen and sailcloth at Crewkerne; of horse-hair seating at Castle Cary, Bruton, and Crewkerne; of bricks, draining-tiles, and the celebrated Bath-brick, at Bridgwater, where are also large engineering works.

The northern part of this county is traversed by the Great Western Railway from Bath to Wellington, by Bristol, Bridgwater, and Taunton; which sends off branches N. to Portishead, Clevedon, Weston-super-Mare (a loop-line), and Watchet; and S.E. from Yatton to Axbridge, Cheddar, Wells, and Witham, on the Weymouth line; from Durston to Yeovil; and from Taunton to Chard. The centre of the county is intersected by the Somersetshire and Dorset line from Burnham through Highbridge, and by Glastonbury to Templecombe, whence it proceeds to Wimborne and Poole, uniting the Bristol and English Channels. The S.E. part of the county has railway communication by means of the Great Western branches from Frome to Yeovil and Axminster. Yeovil is also connected with the Taunton line by a branch through Montacute and Langport to Durston. There is also a line from Bristol by Clutton and Radstock to Frome, with a branch to Camerton; and one from Bath by Radstock to Shepton Mallet and Evercreech Junction, on the line between Bruton and Castle Cary.

The Kennet and Avon Canal enters the county from Bradford, and joins the Avon at Bath. The Somersetshire Coal Canal has two branches, one commencing at Paulton, the other at Radstock, and both communicating with the Kennet and Avon Canal.

Somersetshire is rich in quarries and mineral productions. The Bath quarries supply one of the best building-stones in England. There were lead mines near Wellington and on the Mendip range, where also calamine was formerly dug. Coal is found at and near Radstoke, in East Mendip. There are slate quarries at Wiveliscombe.

v. Antiquities: British; Roman.

This county is excelled by very few in the number and interest of its primæval and Roman remains. The crests of many of the hills are strengthened with earthworks forming encampments, often of great extent. It is difficult, if not impossible, to assign a date to these works; but it is probable that many of them are of immense antiquity, long anterior to the Roman invasion, in their original formation, and have been occupied in succession by the forces of the various contending parties during the early ages of English history. Conspicuous and characteristic examples of these encampments may be seen at the three Cadburys, Dolbury, Maesbury, Hamdon Hill, Neroche Castle, and Orchard Castle. The vestiges of British villages are to be seen on Ben Knoll above Wookey, Worlebury, and Pen Selwood, &c. The Wansdyke may be traced in its course in many places, especially at Englishcombe, near Bath. The stone circles of Stanton Drew are megalithic, with avenues of the same type as that of Avebury. The other remains of the stone age that deserve mention are the Fairy's Toot in Nempnett parish and the Littleton Sepulchre.

The chief vestiges of early habitations are those on Worle Hill, above Weston-super-Mare; on Hampton Down, above Bath; on Dundry Hill, S. of the church; at Charterhouse on Mendip; on the hill above Bleadon; and Hamdon Hill. The remarkable lake-village at Meare, near Glastonbury, should here be mentioned.

Groups of sepulchral barrows stud the ridges of many of the hills. Near Priddy, on the Mendip, are two groups, one of nine, another of eight barrows. Maes Knoll, on Dundry Hill, is a barrow of immense size.

British roads traversed the county in the form of *ridgeways*, many of which can still be traced.

(1.) Crossed the Avon between Burghwalls and Stokeleigh camps, and pursued its way along Leigh Down to Cadbury camp above Tickenham, where it was joined by a road from Portishead, and proceeded S. across the vale to a camp above Yatton; thence crossing the marsh, it traversed Mendip from Sandford by Shutshelve to Cross, thence over the Axe by Brent Knoll to Pawlet, at W. extremity of Polden Hill, where

it joined a branch of the road from Old Sarum to Uphill. Here it crossed the estuary of the Parrett to Combwich, and near the fort on Cannington Park Hill it coincides with the turnpike road from Bridgwater to Stowey, and climbs by a valley S. of Over Stowey to the top of the Quantocks; descended and climbed Willet Hill, and ran along the ridge of Brendon Hill, and thence into the valley of Exe, and to Barnstaple.

(2.) The British trackway from the Humber to Axmouth entered the county at Threeshire Stones, 1 m. W. of Colerne, Wilts, and went by the base of Little Solsbury Hill to Bath, where it crossed the Avon under Beechen Cliff, and climbed the hill by Holloway, crossed Wansdyke near Odd Down turnpike, and, ascending and descending, ran along the high ground to Radstoke, near which it took the line of the turnpike road to Shepton Mallet and Wells. It descended into the great vale of Somersetshire, and took a direction to Ilchester, leaving the British fort on Hamdon Hill to l., crossed the Parrett, and split at Watergore. One branch ascended Whitedown, near Windwhistle, and proceeded by Tytherleigh to Streetford Bridge over the Axe, and to Axminster; the other crossed the Ile to Ilton and Broadway, and thence to Castle Neroche.

(3.) Another trackway went from Minehead to Neroche, and thence over Buckland Down to Streetford.

(4.) The last to be noticed led from Neroche to Honiton. This was paved, and was dug up some years since, and the material used for the turnpike road.

The chief British fortresses are those of Stantonbury, Maes Knoll at Dundry (both on the Wansdyke), Cadbury Camp, those of Portbury, Portishead, Dolsbury, Dinghurst, and Brent Knoll; the camps of Hampton, above Bath, Little Solsbury, Blackness Hill (near Mells), Tedbury, Wadbury, and Newbury, the Beacon on Mendip, Maesbury, Worlebury, Danesbury, commanding the Parrett, Dunkery Beacon, Cadbury, Hamdon, and Neroche.

The Romans availed themselves of the old British trackway to construct the Fosseway through Bath and Ilchester to Moridunum, on the S. coast. The *via ad Axium*, connecting Axium, on the Bristol Channel, with Sorbiodunum, or Old Sarum, runs from Uphill to Oldmixton, is very indistinct over Bleadon Hill, on S. side of Wenthill. It crosses the road from Bristol

to Bridgwater at 14 m. between Churchill and Cross, and runs beneath Banwell Hill direct to Shipham, leaving Dolbury l.; shortly after, it arrives at a rocky cleft, cut to allow it to pass, traversing a valley carried alongside of the Blackdown ridge, then to Charterhouse, where it makes an angle to S., passes many tumuli, and leads direct to a solitary inn, known as the "Castle of Comfort," near which are four large British circles, a group of nine barrows and a group of eight; crosses the road to Wells at Green Ore Farm, goes by Maesbury camp, crosses the Fosse at Beacon Hill. Here it is very indistinct for a considerable distance, but is supposed to go by Gear Hill, Maiden Bradley, Kingston and Monkton Deverill, and crosses the road from Shaftesbury to Warminster, near 6 m. from W. Near this it goes round the tumulus N. of Lower Pertwood Farm. 15 m. from Old Sarum the road is perfect. It runs through Great Ridge Wood, crosses the Western Road between Deptford Inn and Chicklade in extensive earthworks at Stockton Wood corner, thence through Grovely Wood; crosses the river Wylye; proceeds through Chilhampton; crosses the Avon, running through Stratford to Old Sarum. A third road, entering the county at the S., passed between Yeovil and the Cokers to Ilchester; thence passing the camp near Compton Dundon, it terminated in two portions, one of which went to Glastonbury; the other followed the summit of the Polden Hills to Chisley Mount. There was also a road branching from the Fosseway which led through Chard and by Castle Neroche, which passed N. of Taunton through Plaistreet to the Quantocks.

The Roman remains at Bath are of unusual magnificence, and have been found in great abundance. Ilchester supplies copious marks of its Roman origin, and the traces of Roman occupation are plentifully scattered over the surface of the county. Tessellated pavements have been found at Camerton, East Coker, Pitney, Whatley, &c. The lead mines of Mendip were worked by the Romans, of which we have evidence in the pigs of lead with Roman inscriptions found at Wookey, Blagdon, &c. An account of Roman Somerset, with map, by Prebendary Scarth, will be found in the "Proc. Somerset Arch. and N.H. Soc.," 1878, pt. ii.

vi. Architecture and Churches.

ARCHITECTURE.

I. *Military.*—The castles of Somersetshire, always a peaceful county, were few, and they have almost entirely disappeared. Of Bristol, just over the border, for many centuries one of the strongest and most important in the kingdom, no more than the name and site and some few fragments remains. Of Castle Cary, famous in the civil wars of Stephen's time, nothing is to be seen beyond some grassy mounds. Taunton preserves its gateway and hall and other portions among modern alterations. Of Bridgwater all has passed away but the name. Dunster was chiefly rebuilt in the reign of Elizabeth, but preserves several portions of earlier work. The chief remains are at Nunney, of the 14th century, and Farleigh Hungerford (scanty) of the 15th.

II. *Domestic.*—This is the richest district in England for domestic remains, especially those of the 15th century. In some parts of the county every village has one or more houses, or parts of houses, worthy of notice. Owing to the excellence of the stone, they have been better preserved than in many parts of England. The following list gives the most remarkable examples, to which the unrivalled specimens at Wells must be added:—

Fourteenth Century.—Meare (manor-house and fish-house); Martock; Compton Dundon; Doulting; Lytes Cary; Chapel Cleve; Clevedon Court; Clapton-in-Gordano (partly destroyed).

Fifteenth Century.—Banwell Court; Beckington; Blackmoor, near Carrington; Chew Stoke (parsonage); Congresbury (parsonage); Croscombe; Glastonbury; Hinton St. George; Hutton; Kingston Seymour; Lytes Cary (part); Nailsea; Norton St. Philip's (George Inn, &c.); Norton-sub-Hamdon; South Petherton; Stoke-under-Hamdon; Tickenham; Yatton.

Sixteenth Century.—Barrington Court; Brympton; Bristol (houses); Dunster; Halsway; Stogumber; Montacute; Nettlecombe; Quantockshead; Sandford Orcas.

III. *Monastic.*—Of the magnificent foundation of Glastonbury the remains are lamentably small. A portion of the church,

the abbey gateway, abbot's kitchen, and barn comprise the whole. The less important religious houses of Cleeve Abbey, Hinton Charterhouse, Muchelney, and Woodspring retain a larger portion, comparatively, of their buildings, and deserve more attention (especially Cleeve Abbey) than till lately they have met with. A small fragment is all that stands of the priory of Taunton. The chapel of the small Austin priory of Stavordale is incorporated with a modern farmhouse.

CHURCHES.

The churches of Somersetshire, previous to the Perpendicular period, appear to have been of no great pretensions. They seem usually to have wanted both clerestories and aisles. They were often cruciform, with a central tower. An octagonal tower, sometimes central (as at North Curry and Doulting), sometimes at one side (Somerton), was frequent in some districts.

There is abundance of fine stone used in the churches of this county; but in several cases a coarser material of blue lias is employed, which does not admit of fine work. These two materials often appear in the same church. In the S.E. district it is the fashion to whitewash the whole of the exterior.

Some churches have only one aisle, as Pilton, Huish, &c.; and there are specimens in which the tower is between the nave and the chancel, yet without indications of Norman work, *e.g.*, Butleigh and Shapwick. Sometimes there are two transeptal chapels of the same height as the aisles, as Glastonbury St. John; and sometimes there is only one, as Shepton Beauchamp, Fivehead. When the tower is situated on the side, it is generally of Perpendicular character. There are some cruciform churches with central towers, as Bath Abbey, Crewkerne, Yatton, Milborne Port, Ilminster, Dunster, Ditcheat, South Petherton, &c. Barrington is also cruciform with a central octagonal tower. Others are cruciform with a western tower, as Bridgwater, Weston Zoyland, &c. Octagonal towers may be seen at Somerton, Doulting, and Barrington; at Barton St. David, Tintinhull (on N. side), Ilchester (west end of the nave), South Petherton (in centre of cross), Podymore (at west end), and Bishop's Hull. Taunton St. Mary Magdalene is remarkable for having double aisles on each side. The chancels frequently belong to an earlier building of an inferior scale,

and harmonize badly with the later and more stately nave and chantries.

This county has a peculiarly distinctive character in its ecclesiology, displaying itself in a general prevalence of Perpendicular work, often of a richly ornamental character, but especially so in the towers, many of which are noted for their magnificence. The more elaborate have often pierced battlements and pinnacles, the latter of very exquisite workmanship, and occasionally multiplied to the number of twelve or sixteen. The belfry windows are generally double, and sometimes triple, and filled with elegant stonework pierced with quatrefoil panelling—an arrangement which, if not quite peculiar to this county, is scarcely found except in those which adjoin it, as Gloucester, Dorset, and Wilts.

"The Perpendicular work of the county," writes Mr. Freeman, "is of the most magnificent character. The typical form is a lofty and elaborate western tower, disengaged from the aisles, often vaulted within, and nave and aisles with or without clerestory, very commonly a south porch as high as the aisles, a high roof, and a comparatively insignificant chancel of earlier work, with Perpendicular chapels on each side. Polygonal turrets are frequent. The roofs are various, but different forms of the coved roof are typical. The interiors are rich in screens and other woodwork. The work is generally superior in the N. to that in the S. part of the county, owing to the superior quality of the stone admittng of more delicate chiselling. The towers, which are the great glory of the county, may be ranked under three typical forms:—(1) The Taunton type, with a staircase turret at one corner, and double buttresses at the others, all the pinnacles being of equal height, the tower being divided into stages by horizontal string-courses. *Examples*—St. Mary Magdalene and St. James, Taunton, Ile Abbots, Bishop's Lydiard, and Huish. (2) The Bristol type, with a prominent turret, crowned with a single spirelet rising above the rest: St. Stephen's and St. Werburgh's, Bristol, Yeovil, Banwell, Cheddar. (3) The Wrington type, which dispenses with the staircase turret and horizontal divisions, and is panelled with two enormously lofty belfry windows, with pinnacled turrets of the same height: Wrington, St. Cuthbert's, Wells, St. John's, Glastonbury, and North Petherton. Spires are very unfrequent, and where they exist are often imperfect, as (formerly) at St. Mary Redcliffe,

Yatton, Shepton Mallet, Minchinhampton. Perfect spires exist at Congresbury, Bridgwater, Frome, Croscombe, Castle Cary, Trent, Whatley, and Doulting."

But though the Perpendicular is the prevailing style of Somersetshire, and most churches, externally at least, seem to belong to it, there will often be found early work in the chancel, generally a transition from Early English to Decorated, and some chancels are wholly of that character. Norman work is uncommon, but there are a few fine specimens.

There is some singular work in Milborne Port, which exhibits some ribs and straight-sided arches, apparently Saxon. There is Early Norman work in the same church, some of a rich and singular character at Compton Martin, and portions of the same style at Stoke-under-Hamdon, East Stoke, West Harptree, Bathford, Montacute, Swell, and Uphill.

The tower of Clevedon and portions of West Harptree partake of both Norman and Early English character.

There is Early English work in the transepts of Barrington, at Montacute, Tintinhull, Shepton Beauchamp. Of the same style are Pilton, Chedzoy, Portishead, Portbury, Keynsham, East Stoke, West Quantockshead, St. Martin Fivehead, the chancel of Martock, the arcades of Shepton Mallet and St. Cuthbert, Wells. Transition to Decorated appears in the chancels of St. Decuman's, Wellington, Ruishton, &c. The Decorated work in this county is not generally of a very rich kind. Specimens will be found in the churches of Frome, Ditcheat, Evercreech, Shapwick, Butleigh, Meare, Priddy, West Charlton, Shepton Beauchamp, Wookey, Compton Dundon, Somerton, parts of Yatton, and a fine porch at Bridgwater. In many of the Early English and Early Decorated windows the interior arch has a kind of feathering, like that which sometimes occurs in Oxfordshire.

The Perpendicular examples are so numerous that it is difficult to specify them. The finest and most considerable churches of this style are Bath Abbey, Taunton St. Mary Magdalene, Glastonbury St. John, Yeovil, Crewkerne, Ilminster, Cheddar, Martock, Kingsbury, North Petherton, Bridgwater, Long Sutton, Leigh-on-Mendip, Mells, Dunster, which last has, however, some earlier indications. At Low Ham is a chapel, built in 1624, having a chancel, aisles, and rood-screen.

The parapets are usually embattled, sometimes with good open panelling. The arrangement of the Perpendicular piers

is very uniform. They are lighter than in Devon, but the capitals of the shafts are less richly sculptured. Large porches are very common, sometimes with good groining. Panelled arches are of constant occurrence.

The rood-turret is generally a marked external feature; and this county has several fine rood-screens of wood with parcloses to the north and south aisles, on some of which the loft still remains. Examples are found at Kingsbury, Long Sutton, Norton Fitzwarren, Bridgwater, Curry Rivell, West Quantocks-head, &c.

Very fine and rich specimens of carved bench-ends are found at Bishop's Lydiard, Crowcombe, Croscombe, Stogumber, Kingsbury, Curry Rivell, Norton Fitzwarren, Weston Zoyland, Cheddar, &c. At Croscombe is a good deal of wood screen-work, and carved benches of later character. Enriched wooden pulpits remain at Bridgwater, Long Sutton, Queen's Camel, North Petherton, and stone pulpits at Cheddar, Stogumber, Meare, Glastonbury St. Benedict, Shepton Mallet, Baltons-borough, Shapwick, &c.

There is some good late stained glass at Cheddar, Kingsbury, Curry Rivell, and of earlier character at St. Decuman's.

Enriched roofs abound, as at Taunton St. Mary Magdalene, Martock, Shepton Mallet, Somerton, North Petherton, Long Sutton, &c.

The lychnoscope, or low side-window, is rare, as the aisles are so often continued along the chancel; but the chancel arch is generally wide and springing from corbels. There are some instances of hagioscopes.

There are several early fonts, and a good many of the Perpendicular period, but there is no very distinctive character about them.

There are not many sepulchral brasses, but at St. Decuman's are some curious examples of late date. The place occupied by sepulchral brasses in other counties where good and durable stone is rare is here taken by incised slabs and other stone memorials. The variety of these is great, including raised effigies in high and low relief, incised figures, and raised and incised crosses. (See R. W. Paul's "Incised and Sepulchral Slabs of N.W. Somerset.")

Some fine and rich tombs occur at Yatton, Cheddar, Back-well, Dunster, Long Ashton, &c., but chiefly of Perpendicular date.

There are sacristies at the east end of the chancel, and below the cill of the east window at Langport, Ilminster, Crewkerne, North Petherton, Kingsbury, &c.

The county affords an interesting field to the campanologist. Most of the churches contain at least six bells of large size and fine tone. Many of these have been recast, but some remain of pre-Reformation date.

There are many excellent examples of churchyard crosses, as at Bishop's Lydiard, Spaxton, Montacute, Doulting, Chewton Mendip, &c.

Market crosses of mediæval date are found at Shepton Mallet, Crowcombe, Hinton St. George, Taunton, Cheddar, Croscombe, &c., and of later style at Dunster, Somerton, Martock, Ilchester.

vii. Places of Interest.

Bath.—Abbey Ch.; Baths; Pump Room; Art Galleries; Roman Remains; Assembly Rooms; Circus; Crescent; Lansdown; Prior Park; Combe Down; Kelston Round Hill; Wick Rocks; Claverton; Wellow; Stony Littleton; Bitton.

Bristol.—Cathedral; St. Mary Redcliffe; Mayor's Chapel; St. Stephen's; St. James's; Blackfriars; Museum; Old Houses; Walls; Basins; Blind Asylum; Müller's Orphan House; Clifton Downs; Suspension Bridge; Gorge of the Avon; Leigh Woods; Blaise Castle (pictures); King's Weston; Penpold Point. Dundry; Stanton Drew; Chew Magna. Ashton Court; Portbury; Portishead.

Clevedon.—Clevedon Court; Old Ch.; Walton Castle. Weston-in-Gordano; Clapton-in-Gordano; Tickenham; Cadbury Camp; Brockley Combe; Cleeve Combe.

Yatton.—Ch.; Parsonage. Congresbury Ch. and Parsonage. Wrington Ch.; Barley Wood.

Weston-super-Mare.—Worle Hill; Kewstoke; Woodspring Priory; Uphill Old Ch.; Brean Down. Banwell Ch.; Bone Caves; view from hill. Hutton Cave.

Axbridge.—Ch.; Cheddar Ch., Caverns, and Cliffs. The Mendips; Combes; Burrington; Blagdon; Wedmore; Brent Knoll.

Wells.—Cathedral; Bishop's Palace; Deanery; Archdeaconry; Close; Vicar's Close; St. Cuthbert's Ch. Wookey Hole; Ebber Rocks.

Glastonbury.—Abbey Ruins; Abbot's Kitchen and Barn; Museum; Tor; Wirral Hill; Churches; George Inn. Sharpham; Meare Manor-house and Fish-house; Street; Saurian Remains; Butleigh Court; the Lake Village.

Somerton.—Ch.; Lytes Cary; views from Kingsdon Hill, Somerton Hill.

Ilchester.—Ch.; Roman Remains; Limington.

Yeovil.—Ch.; Old Houses; Summerhouse Hill. Trent: Old House, Ch., Preston Plucknett, Brympton; Montacute: House, Ch., Priory, St. Michael's Hill. Hamhill; Stoke-sub-Hamdon; Bradford Abbas Ch.; Clifton Maybank.

Martock.—Ch.; Old House; Kingsbury Ch.; West Stoke.

Langport.—Ch., Huish Episcopi Ch., Hanging Chapel, Muchelney Abbey; Low Ham Chapel; High Ham; Aller; Parkfield.

Bridgwater.—Ch.; Sedgemoor; Chedzoy; Weston Zoyland; Cannington. Nether Stowey; the Quantocks; Enmore Castle; Halswell House. Boroughbridge; Othery; Isle of Athelney; Burnham.

Taunton.—St. Mary Magdalene Ch.; St. James's Ch.; Castle and Museum; Shire Hall. Hatch Court; Cothelstone; Crowcombe (pictures); Willsneck; Watchet; Blue Anchor; Cleeve Abbey; N. Curry.

Wellington.—Ch.; Monument on Black Down; Robin Hood's Butts; Nynehead Court; Cothay Manor.

Ilminster.—Ch.; Barrington Court; Donyatt Ch. and Manor; Jordans; Dowlishwake; Broadway; Castle Neroche; Ilton; Ile Abbots.

Chard.—Ch.; Lace Factories; Ford Abbey; Snowdon (view); Strayn Hill (view).

Crewkerne.—Ch.; Hinton St. George; Cricket St. Thomas.

Frome.—Ch.; Cloth Mills; Card Mill; Vallis; Nunney Castle; Lullington Ch.; Longleat; Mells; Ammerdown (view); Marston House; Orchardleigh; Witham.

Bruton.—Ch.; Grammar School; Hospital. Redlynch; Stourhead; Alfred's Tower; Batcombe; Jack's Castle.

Wincanton. — Stavordale Priory; Roundhill; Pen Selwood; Penpits; Orchard Castle.

Castle Cary.—View; Alford Ch.; Cadbury Camp; North Cadbury Ch.; Queen's Camel Ch.

Shepton Mallet.—Ch.; Manufactories; Cross. Doulting Quarries; Ch.; Barn. Evercreech Ch.; Pilton Ch. and Barn; Maesbury Camp; Gurney Slade. Croscombe Ch.; Old Houses.

Dunster.—Ch.; Cross; Castle; Grabbist Hill (view); Conegar Hill. Minehead; Holnicote; Porlock; Dunkery Beacon; Bossington Beacon; Culbone; Exmoor.

Dulverton.—Mount Sydenham; Exmoor; Pixton Park; Haddon Down; Bampton; Waterwood.

viii. Cycling Routes.

Though parts of the county are exceedingly hilly, Exmoor, for example, being much more a district for the pedestrian than the cyclist, there are yet many fine roads, amongst which the following may be specially indicated :—

(1.) **Bristol to Taunton** through Long Ashton, Flax Bourton, and Congresbury. (Here a detour may be made on l. to Yatton and Clevedon, or through Puxton and Worle to Weston-super-Mare, and on rt. to Wrington.) From Congresbury to Churchill, under Dolebury Camp to Blagdon. Here ascend the Mendips, and cross by Charterhouse-on-Mendip, descending the Cheddar gorge, which must be done with great caution. (Here the cyclist can diverge l. to Wookey and Wells.) From Cheddar, through Axbridge and Brent, to Bridgwater, and thence by North Petherton to Taunton.

(2.) **Taunton to Minehead** by Bishop's Lydeard and Crowcombe, Bicknoller and Sampford Brett, to Williton, a fine ride along the side of the Quantocks; thence by Cleeve and Dunster. From Minehead it is a pretty and easy ride to Porlock, but very hilly further on. It is a fine but very hilly ride to Winsford *viâ* Cutcombe.

(3.) **Taunton to Yeovil** *viâ* Hatch Beauchamp, Ilminster, South Petherton, Stoke-sub-Hamdon, Montacute, Brympton, and Preston Plucknett, an easy ride, with many places of interest on the way.

(4.) **Bath to Wells and Glastonbury** *viâ* Dunkerton Hill, Radstock, Wells Hill (dangerous the other way), Chilcompton, West Horrington, to Wells; thence a flat, easy road to Glastonbury.

(5.) **Bristol to Wells** *viâ* Stobery Hill (dangerous the other way) to Chewton Mendip; thence by Rush Hill (dangerous) to Farrington Gurney, over Cloud Hill to Clutton and Pensford; thence over Pensford and Arleigh Hills to Whitchurch, Knowle, Totterdown, and Bristol, a hilly ride.

(6.) **Wells to Frome** by Shepton Mallet and Nunney.

LIST OF ROUTES

ROUTE		PAGE
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2.	*Bath* to *Wellington*, by *Bristol* and *Clifton* [*Kingsweston*, *Leigh Court*, *Portishead*], *Yatton*, [*Clevedon*] [*Brockley Combe*], [*Weston-super-Mare*], *Highbridge* [*Burnham*], *Bridgwater* [*Sedgemoor*, *Isle of Athelney*], *Durston*, and *Taunton* (G. W. Rly.)	97
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ROUTE 1.

WIMBORNE BY STALBRIDGE, TEMPLECOMBE, AND WINCANTON TO GLASTONBURY AND WELLS.

RAIL	PLACES.
	Wimborne.
25¼ m.	Henstridge.
27¼ m.	Templecombe.
30¾ m.	Wincanton.
35 m.	Cole.
37¾ m.	Evercreech.
43¼ m.	West Pennard.
48½ m.	Glastonbury.

	Glastonbury.
6 m.	Wells.

	Glastonbury.
51 m.	Ashcott.
52¾ m.	Shapwick.
55 m.	Edington.
58½ m.	Bason Bridge.
60¼ m.	Highbridge.

From Wimborne to Templecombe the rly. traverses a district known as the *Vale of Blackmoor*, a wide fertile level, watered by the *Cale*, which flows southwards from Wincanton to join the Stour. It is celebrated among farmers as one of the richest of pasture lands. Its marshy surface is speckled by herds of lazy cattle, and by busier droves of pigs, of which this vale supplies to London a larger number than either of the counties of Somerset or Devon. Blackmoor is also known for the vigorous growth of its oaks, which thrive on the strong clay. It was originally called *White Hart Forest*, from Henry III. having here hunted a beautiful white hart and spared its life; and Fuller gives the sequel to the tale. He says that Thomas de la Lynd, a gentleman of fair estate, killed the white hart which Henry by express will had reserved for his own chase, and that in consequence the county —as accessory for not opposing him—was mulcted for ever in a fine called "White-hart Silver." "Myself," continues Fuller, "hath paid a share for the sauce who never tasted the meat." The memory of the White Hart is preserved by the "King's Stag Bridge" over the Lidden, at the village of Pulham, 6 m. S. of Stalbridge, and the inn of the same name. The local tradition, which is still fresh, is that the stag was killed here. Loudon informs us that the vale contained *Losel's Wood*, in which stood the *Raven's Oak*, mentioned by White in his 'Nat. Hist. of Selborne.'

Just beyond Stalbridge the rly. crosses the border, and, leaving Dorset, enters Somerset, and reaches

25¼ m. **Henstridge** Stat. The *Ch.* (rebuilt except the tower in 1873) contains the fine canopied altar-tomb with effigies of William Carent (d. 1476), high-sheriff of Somerset and Dorset, and his wife Margaret, sister of John, first Lord Stourton, the one in armour, the other in a robe decorated with rosettes. The shields on the shoulders of the male effigy bear the arms of his mother, Alice, the heiress of the Toomers, and the mantle of the female bears those of Stourton. William Carent's brother Nicholas was Dean of Wells, and in 1463 Bp. Beckington published an indulgence of forty days to all true penitents who should say a paternoster and ave at this tomb for the souls of "that worthy man" William Carent, his brother the Dean, and their relatives.

[*Inwood* (T. M. Guest, Esq., J.P.).]

The **Virginia Inn**, at **Henstridge Ash**, stands on 4 cross-

roads. A young ash-tree, the successor of one of considerable age, surrounded by a circular stone seat, grows by the roadside, and is one of the many traditional sites of the tale of Sir Walter Raleigh and his pipe.

27¼ m. **Templecombe Junction** Stat., where the Somerset and Dorset Rly. crosses the main line of the S.-W. Rly. to Yeovil and Exeter. Here was formerly a preceptory of the Knights Templars, founded before 1185 by Serlo Fitz-Odo, the remains of which now form part of a farmhouse.

The rly. ascends the valley of the *Cale*, a tributary of the Stour, to

30¾ m. ✻ **Wincanton** Stat. (Pop. in 1891 2109), a thriving little town, situated on the *Cale*. It stands on the W. slope of the hill at the head of the broad *Vale of Blackmoor*, where the hills form a natural terrace.

Wincanton, formerly called *Wincaleton*, from the river Cale, on which it stands, is a town of great antiquity. The manor, granted by William the Conqueror to Walter of Dowai, belonged in succession to the Lovells of Castle Cary, the St. Maurs and Zouches, who had a residence at *Marsh Court*, now a farmhouse, 3 m. S. It was probably built out of the ruins of the old Manor House after the Restoration. A chimney-piece on the first floor bears the initials G. T. K. (George Thomas Knight), 1661, embossed in plaster. Part of the moat still remains. In 1553 Wincanton was terribly ravaged by the plague, to such an extent that the roads to it were closed, and travellers passed into Wiltshire along the old British trackway from Old Sarum to Ilchester, which passes near the tower now called Alfred's Tower. In 1645 an active little Parliamentary garrison was collected here to annoy Sherborne Castle. Skirmishes were frequent, and on April 1st Sir J. Digby with a brigade of horse dragoons carried off 100 prisoners, with two colours, 300 horses, and 300 arms. In 1688 it was the scene of a skirmish between a small party of troops on the side of the Prince of Orange and some Irish dragoons of James II., in which the first blood was shed in the Revolution. —*Macaulay*, ii. 514. The Prince on December 2nd of that year slept in a house in South Street, where the *Orange Room* is still pointed out. Great part of the town was burnt in 1707. The *Ch.*, with the exception of the tower and 18th-century N. porch, was rebuilt in 1888–9 at a cost of about £6000. It contains 5 memorial windows of stained glass, all executed by Messrs. Clayton and Bell. The S. porch (erected as a memorial to Miss Chafy, who re-endowed the benefice) has built into it a small mediæval carving representing St. Eligius replacing the amputated leg of a horse. In the *Town Hall* was a portrait (burnt in a fire on August 9th, 1877) of Sir James Dyer, Lord Chief Justice of the Common Pleas, and Speaker of the House of Commons in Edward VI.'s second Parliament, 1553 (d. 1582), who was born at Roundhill, in this parish. The integrity of his character and his profound legal knowledge carried him unscathed through the eventful period in which he lived, and

secured him the confidence of three successive sovereigns. One of Queen Mary's first formal acts was the appointment of Dyer as Queen's Serjeant, though he was known to be a favourer of the reformed faith, and on the day following Elizabeth's accession his commission as Puisne Justice of the Common Pleas was renewed, and the next year he became Chief Justice. Wheatstone, a contemporary rhymester, speaks of him as

"Alive, refuge of those whom wrong did payne,
A Dyer such as dyde without a stayne."

The grandfather of the famous Dr. Sacheverell held the incumbency of Wincanton during the Commonwealth, and being ejected by the Bartholomew Act, retired to his wife's estate at Stalbridge. Being apprehended under the Conventicle Act at Shaftesbury, he was committed to Dorchester gaol, where he suffered a 3 years' imprisonment, resulting in his death. From 1804–12 Wincanton was a depôt for French prisoners of war to the number of 297, occupying 19 houses in 1811. The register records the death of 17. A stone in the churchyard, restored in 1897, commemorates two of these prisoners who died in 1806 and 1807 respectively. There is a mineral spring and defunct spa at *Horwood*, at the foot of Coneygore Hill, 1 m. S.W. **Roundhill**, 2 m. N., was the seat of the Diers and the birthplace of the Lord Chief Justice, having been previously a grange of Stavordale Priory. The house was rebuilt 1701.

PLACES NEAR WINCANTON.

4 m. S.W. of Wincanton is **Horsington,** where there is a very remarkable preaching-cross of the 13th century bearing the figure of a preaching-friar under a canopy surmounted by scrolls. Adjoining it are the Manor House of the Gawens and the Church House, bearing the date 1611, and some picturesque ancient cottages. A Perp. window in the curious rectory dove-cot was brought from the Manor House of Stowell.

The pretty road out of this town towards Bruton, and the view from that towards Castle Cary, should be seen. At a distance of 7 m. S.W. is *Cadbury Castle*, the traditional camp of King Arthur (Rte. 4); 3 m. in the direction of Bruton, *Redlynch Park*, the property of the Earl of Ilchester, the house (now uninhabited) built in 1672 by Sir Stephen Fox; to the N., *Alfred's Tower* and *Jack's Castle;* below the heights of Jack's Castle and Pen-ridge, about 3 m. N.E. from Wincanton, some remains of the Augustinian priory of

Stavordale, founded in the 12th century by the Lovel family. The *Ch.* was rebuilt by John Stourton c. 1440, when the estate was held by William Lord Zouche of Castle Cary, whose arms are seen in the stonework. The shell of the conventual ch. remains entire, but desecrated to the purposes of a farmhouse and offices. The choir is the farmhouse, the nave a barn. The N. chapel, with a groined roof of exquisite beauty, has been divided by a floor into upper and lower chambers. The coats-of-arms in the roof include

those of Zouche, Cantelupe, Roos, St. Maur, and Lovel. The roof of the chancel has handsomely carved beams and brackets, and is supported by elaborate corbels. Stavordale gives the title of Baron to the Earl of Ilchester. In the centre of a wood hard by are the remains of a British camp called **Kenwalch Castle.**

The road to Mere climbs *Bayford Hill*, which on the rt. looks far into Dorsetshire ; l. is *Bayford Lodge* (J. Bradney, Esq.).

The road crosses **Leigh Common,** the place of meeting of the witches of Wincanton and the vicinity, where the devil appeared to them in the shape of a handsome man, and the company had cake and wine and good beer, while a man in black played a pipe or cittern, and the company danced, as is recorded in the depositions taken at Castle Cary in 1664 in Glanvil's "Sadducismus Triumphatus." It then enters a projecting tongue of Dorsetshire, and ascends the steep southern escarpment of the elevated plateau on which stand the little village and church of

3½ m. **Pen Selwood.** The small *Ch.* has a Norm. S. door, and a Norm. font, and other ancient features, preserved when it was rebuilt in 1806. This has been considered to be the site of Caer Pensauelcoit, one of the British cities mentioned by Nennius, and is identified by Dr. Guest with "Peonne by Gillingham," where, in 658, Cenwealh of Wessex defeated the Welsh and secured the annexation of Somersetshire to his kingdom. It was also, in 1001, the field of a battle under Ethelred, and, in 1016, the scene of the great victory of Edmund Ironside over Canute. The position is a very remarkable one, and of great natural strength. The elevated ground forming the heights of Stourhead Park, marked by Jack's Castle and Alfred's Tower, sends out a kind of bastion, known as Pen-ridge, at the line of junction of the three counties of Wilts, Somerset, and Dorset, forming the centre and key of the district. To the W. and S. is a steep escarpment. To the E. the steep slope has been cut into by the sources and affluents of the Stour, forming projecting tongues of land, which have been strongly fortified. The most northerly of these spurs has its E. end cut off by a deep ditch, and is occupied by an earthwork known as the **Castle.** The outer bailey to the W. is again cut off by a rampart and fosse. The southern spur is also fortified by strong earthworks. A circular keep known as **Castle Orchard,** overhanging the Stour, commands the entrance of the valley. Behind the keep is an oblong outer bailey, also strongly and separately fortified. The S. and W. sides of the position where the table-land is less strongly defended by nature are protected by a lofty artificial earthen rampart, which appears on both sides of the outlet of the Stour. A very considerable extent of this fortified area is honeycombed with thousands of rude pits of various sizes scattered about, without any attempt at arrangement. Those to the S. of Rose Combe (the valley dividing the two chief spurs) are known as the **Pen Pits,** those to the N. of the Combe as the **Gasper Pits.**

They are found also in large numbers on the E. side of the river. Sir R. C. Hoare estimated the area covered by these pits at 700 acres, of which one half had at that time been brought into cultivation. This has been much increased since Hoare's time, and every year sees the obliteration of a very large number of these interesting memorials of the past, destroyed by filling up and levelling. The object of these excavations has been warmly contested, affording, in Sir R. C. Hoare's words, "food for conjecture rather than positive conviction." That author, however, regarded them as "the work of a rude nation and of British origin," and considered them to be the sites of the circular huts or wigwams of the primæval inhabitants of our island. The opinion was strengthened by a large number of similar examples in different parts of England, in many of which the discovery of fragments of utensils, personal ornaments, and other traces of domestic life (none of which have been as yet found at Pen Pits) has proved beyond question that these cavities indicate groups of habitations forming a primæval settlement. This opinion, since maintained by Mr. T. Kerslake, was strongly contested by the late Rev. F. Warre, who conjectured that these pits were quarries, sunk for the purpose of reaching a hard bed of greensand, used for millstones and querns, as well as for building. In the year 1879, a committee of the Somersetshire Archæological Society, assisted by General Pitt Rivers, and subsequently and still more fully the General independently, examined these pits fairly completely, and in a report to H.M. Commissioners of Works he says: "I think the conclusions arrived at in the grindstone theory are fully confirmed; . . . nor are there any grounds that I can perceive for supposing that the pits were at any time constructed for habitations."

Stourton is little more than 1 m. N. of Pen Selwood, and *Stourhead House* about 2½ m.

Cucklington is 3 m. S.E. of Wincanton. The *Ch.* has a fine tower to the S. The arcade is E.E., the E. window a triplet of three lancets. In this parish is *Shank's House* (A. E. Sutton, Esq.), standing in richly wooded grounds, with some fine cedars.

St. Maur. The *Ch.* (rebuilt 1830) has a Norm. font.

Bratton, 2½ m. N.W., stands on the steep slope of Bratton Hill, conspicuous from the rly. l. In 1834 on Cattle Hill, a lofty tumulus W. of Bratton Ch., the foundations of a Roman building were discovered, with some coins of Constantius II. It was probably a watch-tower, and a point of communication between *Cadbury Castle* and *Kingsettle Hill*, on which Alfred's Tower stands. (Holbrook House, Charles Barton, Esq., J.P.; Bratton Lodge, Charles Penruddocke, Esq., J.P.)

Yarlington *Ch.*, rebuilt, with the exception of the tower, 1877, stands W. of Bratton Hill. There are some remains of the Manor House, formerly owned by the family of the Montacutes, the Earls of Salisbury. Yarling-

ton House, is the residence of T. E. Rogers, Esq., Chancellor of the Diocese. Hadspen House (H. Hobhouse, Esq., M.P.) is a venerable-looking mansion, with woods rising above it.

Passing on l. at 34 m. **Shepton Montague,** close to the rly., with a Perp. *Ch.* restored in 1855, and rt. **Redlynch Park** (Earl of Ilchester) (Rte. 4), we run through a remarkably picturesque country, among wooded hills and deep valleys, and reach

35 m. **Cole** Stat., within 1½ m. of Castle Cary W. and Bruton E. (Rte. 4), a short distance of the village of Pitcombe, S. A little beyond Cole Stat., the Somerset and Dorset line crosses the Frome and Weymouth line and the wooded valley of the Brue, winds westwards, and passing **Wyke Champflower** rt., and at 37 m. **Lamyat,** at the foot of **Creech Hill** (a bold promontory of the oolite, with a small camp on the summit), reaches, through very pretty country,

37¾ m. **Evercreech Junction** Stat. An omnibus runs several times a day to Castle Cary, 3 m.

Evercreech, 1½ m. N., is the stat. for the village of Evercreech. The *Ch.* deserves inspection. The fine tower, resembling the still finer one of Wrington, is a pretty feature in the landscape. The nave and N. aisle are good Perp., and there is a fine wooden roof, with ancient colouring. The E. window is Dec. In the village is a good 15th-century cross, removed from the churchyard. (Evercreech House, Mrs. Sherston.)

On the rt., about 2 m. N.E. of Evercreech, is the small but curious aisleless church of **Chesterblade** (restored 1888), originally a Norm. building, of which date are the S. door and some remains of the chancel corbel-table. The bell-cot is Perp. It contains a Norm. tub-font and a stone reading-desk with shelf and panelling of the date of Hen. VIII., perhaps intended as a desk for the Bible immediately after the Reformation.

On the top of Small Down (728 ft.), near by, is an oblong entrenchment, near which numerous coins of Roman and later periods have been found.

1½ m. S. of Evercreech, **Milton Clevedon** has a small cruciform *Ch.*, E.E. altered to Perp., with a tower of the last century and further restored recently. In the chancel is an E.E. tomb with the effigy of a priest.

[**Ditcheat,** 1 m. W. of Evercreech Junction, has a *Ch.* fine enough to reward the tourist for turning out of his way to examine it. It is cruciform, with a central tower, Perp., with canopied niches, and terminated with a pyramidal capping. The initials and monogram of Abbot John Selwood, of Glastonbury, of which abbey Ditcheat was a manor, appear on the parapets. The W. front is a good composition. The crossing is Trans.; the lantern has a fan-vault. The chancel is Dec., the windows fine examples of pure geometrical tracery, their rear arches being foliated (a local

feature). A Perp. clerestory has been added to the chancel, and one small Norm. window remains, a relic of the original church. The nave is Perp. and has light arcades, a clerestory, and fine, well-preserved wooden roofs. There is some curious post-Reformation woodwork, including chancel screen stalls and pulpit (1630). In the chancel there is an early Dec. tomb with the effigy of a priest. The bells have ancient inscriptions. The churchyard cross has been modernized. The old sculptured head is preserved by the rector. The Manor House of the Abbots of Glastonbury is near the church. It afterwards belonged to Sir Ralph Hopton, a noble specimen of the Cavaliers of Charles I.'s time. It is partly late Perp., but the larger part dates from Charles II.]

The rly. continues up the beautiful valley, rich in woods and orchards, and sweeping round Pennard Hill, S., reaches

39¾ m. **Pylle** Stat., 1 m. from the hamlet of *Street*, on the Fosse-way, which intersects the parish from N. to S., and climbs the Pennard ridge in bold defiance of natural obstacles. The *Ch.* of Pylle is Trans.-Norman, altered into Perp. and rebuilt, except the tower, in 1868.

Pylle House, now a farmhouse, was a mansion of the Berkeleys. The E. wing, in the Elizabethan style, is still standing.

East Pennard may be visited either from Pylle or West Pennard Stat., 2 m. from each. The large *Ch.*, Perp., has a low tower, unlike the usual Somersetshire type, with five large and fine-toned bells. It has a good carved oak roof and richly carved Norm. font. A Perp. cross stands in the churchyard. Near this is *Pennard House* (E. B. Napier, Esq., D.L., J.P.). The views from Wrax Hill, 1 m. E., are beautiful.

41¾ m. rt. in a pretty valley, 1 m. N., stands **Pilton**, formerly belonging to the Abbey of Glastonbury. The *Ch.* is beautifully situated. It is partly Trans. in style, with Perp. clerestory and a later chancel, said to have been built by Amberson, Precentor of Wells. The S. door is Norm., the N. door E.E., with a Perp. arch inserted. The pulpit is a fine specimen of its style (1618). A pulpit-cloth made out of a cope is preserved in the vicarage. The paten is mediæval (c. 1490). In the centre of the nave, which has a fine open timber roof, is a brass chandelier dated 1749. In the churchyard is a yew-tree supposed to be 800 years old. At Pilton was a grange of the abbots of Glastonbury, of which a noble barn remains of the time of Rich. II., the architecture inclining rather to the Perp. than the Dec. (figured in Parker's "Dom. Ant.," vol. ii.), with the emblems of the four Evangelists under the gable windows.

Perridge House (H. V. Dobson, Esq.) is a mansion pleasantly situated. Other mansions are Burford (E. H. Clerk, Esq., J.P., D.L.) and Westholme (Mrs. Douglas-Campbell).

Passing under **Stickleball Hill** l., we arrive at

43¼ m. **West Pennard** Stat., 1½ m. E. of the village from which

it takes its name, and the same distance from Pilton. The *Ch.* is a fine Perp. building in excellent condition, thoroughly restored, and fitted with open seats. The tower has much elegant ornamentation, and is groined. The Tudor arches within bespeak a late date. The N. aisle and chancel have fine panelled roofs, and there is a good rood-screen with vine-leaf carving, and a rich carved W. door. The pulpit retains the hour-glass stand. In the churchyard is a fine cross, the quatrefoil panels of the base containing the emblems of the Passion and the cipher of Richard Bere, Abbot of Glastonbury (d. 1524). 1 m. W. on the road to Glastonbury is **Ponter's Ball**, or **Wall**, a very curious earthwork crossing the isthmus E. of Glastonbury and protecting it.

The rly. here enters on the wide expanse once a peat bog surrounding Glastonbury, and sweeping round the N. side of the Tor Hill, with its conspicuous tower, reaches

48½ m. ✲ ***Glastonbury** Stat., where it joins the line from Wells. Glastonbury (Pop. 4233) is a municipal borough and market town, owing its origin to its celebrated abbey, one of the earliest centres of Christianity in England. It was in far-distant ages an island rising from the estuary of the Brue, the glass-like clearness of whose waters gained for it the name by which it is said to have been known to the Britons, *Ynys-witren*, or *Ynys-gwydryn*, "Insula Vitrea," which has descended to later times in the A.-S. *Glaestingabyrig*, and the modern Glastonbury.

Another view is that the root-syllable *glas* is British, signifying *blue*, from the colour of the waters surrounding the place, and that Ynys-witren, "The Glass Island," is a modern antique coined to support a mistaken etymology. Another grotesque legend derives the name from one "Glæsting," an Anglo-Saxon whose lost sow led him a long journey to a tree loaded with apples, then a great rarity in the district, near the "Vetusta Ecclesia." Pleased with the land, he took his family, the Glæstingas, to reside there, and it became the "byrig" of his descendants.—*Gale*, 295. The Britons knew it also by the name of *Avalon*, or "Apple-Tree Isle" (*aval* = apple, Welsh), which the Romans adopting, called it *Insula Avallonia*, the mystic "Isle of Avalon," which later tradition assigned as the spot where, as men fancied, "not long after the complete legend of Arthur had been invented, the tomb of Arthur being fittingly invented also," the Arthur of romance had been buried, but where he really slept in fairy bower to awake in due time, the avenger of his country's wrongs—

"The island valley of Avilion,
Where falls not hail, or rain, or any snow,
Nor ever wind blows loudly, but it lies
Deep-meadowed, happy, fair with orchard lawns
And bowery hollows crowned with summer sea." *Tennyson.*

Hither also the body of the disloyal but repentant Guinevere was brought, it is said, from Amesbury to repose by the side of her wronged husband, in the same rude sarcophagus, hollowed from the trunk of a huge oak. The place of their sepulture was said to have been marked by two tall stone crosses, between which the supposed royal pair reposed undisturbed till the days of Henry II.,

who, fired by the praises of the renowned conqueror chanted by the native bards while he was tarrying at St. David's for the assembling of the fleet with which he was purposing to cross to complete the conquest of Ireland, desired his nephew, the then Abbot, A.D. 1171, to have the royal remains removed from the open cemetery to a more honourable position within the church. A search was accordingly made, and at the depth of 16 ft. a massive oak trunk was discovered, with two cavities, the one containing a gigantic skeleton, the leg-bone reaching to the middle of the thigh of a living man; the other the bones of a female. A lock of golden hair was still gleaming in the midst of the decay, but on a monk's hastily snatching at it to raise it from its recess it immediately crumbled to dust. They also, it is said, found a leaden cross with a Latin inscription—"Hic jacet sepultus inclytus Rex Arthurus in insula Avallonia."

The relics were removed to the *Ch.*, and subsequently placed in a mausoleum before the high altar with the tomb of Edward the Elder on the N., where they were visited by Edward I. and Queen Eleanor, 1276, and were seen by Leland at the middle of the 16th century. The skulls of Arthur and Guinevere were placed outside the shrine for the devotion of the people.

The chief interest of Glastonbury, however, arises from its connection with the early religious history of our country. "The *Ch.* of Glastonbury—founded by the Briton, honoured and enriched by the Englishman—is the one great religious foundation which lived through the storm of English conquest, and in which Briton and Englishman have an equal share. . . . What Glastonbury has to itself, alone and without rival, is its historical position as the tie, at once national and religious, which binds the history and memories of our race to those of the race which we supplanted. Nowhere is there the same unbroken continuity of religious life." —*E. A. F.* The early history of Glastonbury may be discarded as bearing the stamp of improbability. There is no doubt, however, that its religious history has a very early commencement. Dr. Guest's belief ("Arch. Journ.," xvi. 129) that it did not become the head sanctuary of the Britons till after the loss of Amesbury points to a prior existence. The first record that has any semblance of historical truth is that in 601 A.D. the king—possibly Gwrgan Varvtrwch—"gave to Ynysvitrin the old church." From this point its greatness as a religious foundation historically commences. Tradition assigns its foundation to Joseph of Arimathea, who had been sent with 11 companions by St. Philip, then preaching in France, A.D. 63, to evangelize Britain. Rejected by the king and his people, the missionaries took refuge in the island now known as Glastonbury, then overgrown with rough thickets and brushwood, and lying deep in the almost impenetrable recesses of a boggy estuary, which, at the commencement of the Christian era, must have been nearly inaccessible. Here, at the command of the archangel Gabriel, St. Joseph built a small wattled chapel in honour of the Virgin. The original missionaries died off, and the existence of the little oratory was lost sight of until, in A.D. 166, Pope Eleutherius, at the request of King Lucius, sent 2 missionaries, who in the course of their progress discovered the chapel, and received supernatural information of its dedication, and re-

established a religious settlement in the island. Three hundred years later a St. Patrick visited the spot, established the regular cœnobitic life, and became the first abbot, and d. 472. Its fame grew, and the "Vetusta Ecclesia," or "Lignea Basilica," became a favourite object of pilgrimage. Gildas the historian d. here 512, and was buried in the "Vetusta Ecclesia." St. Paulinus, Abp. of York c. 630, covered the little wattled structure with boards, and cased it in lead, as a precious relic. King Ina, 688, by the advice of St. Aldhelm, built and endowed a monastery here, and founded the "Major Ecclesia" in honour of SS. Peter and Paul. It was devastated in the Danish wars, but was thoroughly restored by Dunstan, "the greatest son, the greatest ruler, that Glastonbury ever saw, the friend of Edmund, the counsellor of Edred, the victim of Edwy, the friend and guide of Edgar, the giver of peace." —*E. A. F.* He was born near Glastonbury, and educated by the Celtic monks, who were then the chief occupants of the monastery. This was the scene of his nightly wanderings over the parapets and roofs of the church in the paroxysms of brain fever, and it was in a cell in the churchyard that the tremendous struggle took place with sensual temptations, which he was vainly striving to repress by hard labour at the forge, to which later tradition has given a coarse and material form. Dunstan by King Edmund's appointment became abbot A.D. 940. "He at once set about building a larger church, in place of the church raised by Ina to the east of 'the old church' of timber. He also raised conventual buildings, and made the brethren dwell in them. By thus causing them to live together, and separating them from the world, he was able to lead them to a more spiritual life. This life was not one of idleness. Under his rule Glastonbury became what Alfred had hoped that Athelney might be, a centre of light and learning. Its scholars were so well taught that England was supplied with archbishops, bishops, and abbots from the great house in Somerset. Nor was it merely book-learning that they gained. One of the ecclesiastical laws of Edgar, in which Dunstan's hand is visible, commands that every priest should diligently teach handicrafts; and in Dunstan's house the arts, in which the English generally excelled, of transcribing, painting, and working in metals, were, we may be sure, well taught."—*Hunt*, "Diocese of Bath and Wells." Edwy expelled and banished him; and it is recorded that when armed men were driving him from the church a sound was heard likened by some to the "wheezy voice of a gleesome hag," by others to "the bleating of a calf," but which was recognized unmistakably by all as the exulting voice of the devil.

The second Norman abbot, Herlewin, 1101–1120, pulled down the church as deficient in grandeur and began a new one, carried on by his successors Sigfrid and King Stephen's brother, Henry of Blois. In 1184 the whole was burnt, and the relics, to the still greater grief of the monks, perished. The work of restoration was immediately commenced by the command and at the expense of King Henry II., the direction of the works being committed to his "camerarius," his nephew Ralph. The first part finished was the chapel of St. Mary (now erroneously known as St. Joseph's Chapel), on the site of the "Vetusta Ecclesia," the little wattled erection of the first mis-

sionaries. This was dedicated June 11, c. 1186. The name of St. Joseph of Arimathea's Chapel attached to this building is "a curious record of the permanency of local superstition." — *Willis.* It is due to the undoubted fact that it stands on the site of the oratory erected by the early missionaries, among whom the very natural desire, in an uncritical age, to identify the religious history of their country with some one or more of the most eminent characters of the New Testament, may have placed Joseph of Arimathea.

The great church was probably begun at the E. end, and carried regularly onwards to the W. The death of Henry II., and the warlike tastes of his successor Richard, interrupted the work, and the monks were at their wits' end for money, when the discovery, alleged or real, of the relics of St. Dunstan brought to the abbey many pilgrims and offerings. Thus the church, of which the fragments remain, was completed and received dedication A.D. 1303. The vaulting, the springing of which can be traced in the S. aisle of the nave, was added by Abbot Sodbury, c. 1330, who also gave the clock, now at Wells. Abbot Monington, 1341–1374, vaulted the choir, and added 2 bays at the E. end. The last abbot but one, Richard Beere, a mighty man for building, raised inverted arches, as at Wells, to uphold the tower, and made other additions, especially St. Edgar's Chapel, at the extreme E. end, which was finished by Abbot Whiting only a few years before he suffered the foul punishment of a traitor on the Tor.

Glastonbury was a mitred abbey, and its head ranked as the premier abbot of England till 1154, when precedence was given to the Abbot of St. Albans. "His apartment in the abbey," we are told, "was a kind of well-disciplined court, where the sons of noblemen and gentlemen were sent for virtuous education, and returned thence excellently accomplished." Abbot Whiting had bred up near 300 after this manner, besides others of a meaner rank, whom he fitted for the universities. At home his table, attendance, and officers were an honour to the nation. Sometimes he even entertained 500 persons of fashion at a time; and twice every week all the poor of the neighbourhood were relieved by him. When he went abroad he was attended by upwards of 100 persons. The library was one of the most richly stored in England. Leland, who spent some days there, by Abbot Whiting's permission, copying MSS., records that he had scarcely passed the threshold when the sight of so many sacred remains of antiquity struck him with such an awe of astonishment, that, for a moment, he hesitated.

The execution of Abbot Whiting, however palliated by Mr. Froude, was one of the foulest of the many judicial murders that disgraced the stormy period of the Reformation. His alleged crimes were "the robbery of his church," *i.e.*, the concealment of its sacred vessels and other treasures from the legalized depredators that were at hand, and "very haut and rank treason," *i.e.*, in Froude's words, "that he was more faithful to the Church than to the State, and was guilty of regarding the old ways as better than the new."

Whiting was apprehended at his manor-house of Sharpham, conveyed to the Tower, whence he was sent back into Somersetshire, "already condemned at a tribunal where Crumwell sat as prosecutor, jury, and judge."—*Froude.* In

Crumwell's private "Remembrances" are the following notes as to this trial: "Item—Councillors to give evidence against the Abbot of Glaston: Richard Pollard, Lewis Forsten, and Thomas Moyle. Item—To see that the evidence be well sorted and the indictments well drawn against the said abbots and their accomplices. Item—The Abbot of Glaston to be tried at Glaston, and also executed there." He was arraigned at Wells, Nov. 14th, 1539, in the Bishop's Great Hall, sentenced to death, and the next day drawn on a hurdle, with 2 of his monks, to the top, it is said, of the Tor Hill, and there put to death. His head was fixed over his abbey gate. His quarters were sent to Wells, Bath, Ilchester, and Bridgwater, to strike terror into the hearts of all who might dare to question the king's prerogative to do what he would in his own dominions.

At the time of the dissolution the abbey held the ancient lordship called the Twelve Hides, which tradition said had been originally granted to Joseph of Arimathea. These lands lay round about it, and amounted to 20,000 statute acres. Within this lordship the bishop might not celebrate a solemn mass, nor dedicate an altar, nor ordain a priest, without the leave of the convent. Besides the Twelve Hides, the estates of the abbey extended over 442 further hides in Somersetshire, and in all maintained a population of 1300 men, besides women and children. The abbey also possessed about eighty hides in Dorset. Crumwell also notes: "The plate of Glastonbury, 11,000 ounces and over, besides golden. The furniture of the house of Glaston. In ready money from Glaston, £1100 and over. The rich copes from Glaston. The whole year's revenue of Glaston. The debts of Glaston, £2000 and above."

An attempt was made in Mary's reign to restore the abbey, but her death speedily put an end to the plan.

The manor of Glastonbury, with the site of the ch. and abbey, was granted by Edward VI. to the Duke of Somerset, and by Elizabeth to Sir Peter Carew. The buildings were abandoned, and allowed to fall into ruin; and, being regarded as the stone quarry of the neighbourhood, nearly the whole was gradually destroyed. Between 1792-94 the ground surrounding it was cleared, levelled, and converted into pasturage, and cartloads of stones, capitals, corbels, pinnacles, and rich fragments of sculpture, were used for making a new road over the marshes to Wells. The ruins are now fortunately carefully looked after.

The entrance to the abbey ruins is on the S. of the chief street, under the new Assembly Rooms, through a garden in which a young scion of the famous Glastonbury thorn (see *post*) still puts forth its leaves and blossoms when all its brethren are bare.

Of the vast ***Church** and its appended buildings the remnants are scanty. Of the latter we have only the Abbot's kitchen and a small fragment adjoining, and a gateway, now converted into the *Red Lion Inn.* Of the ch. we have the 2 E. tower piers, with one of the N. transeptal chapels (erroneously called St. Mary's), nearly the whole of the S. wall of the choir aisle, some bays of the S. nave aisle, and the so-called St. Joseph's Chapel. The whole is of Tr.-Norman, passing into E.E., corresponding with the

date of its commencement (c. 1184); the same design having been maintained throughout, with apparently but little variation in detail. The work is of the very highest type, and the excellence of the stone from the Doulting quarries renders the details almost as fresh as when they were first executed. The fragments of the triforium and clerestory attached to the tower piers enable us to restore the general design of the ch., which, both in size and architectural excellence, was on a level with our first-class cathedrals. The ch., exclusive of St. Joseph's Chapel, was 410 ft. long by 90 ft. broad; the transept, 282 ft. long; St. Joseph's Chapel, 118 ft. by 40 ft., making a total length of 528 ft., Winchester, our longest cathedral, being 530 ft. long. The nave was of 10 bays, the constructional choir (the ritual choir was under the tower) originally of 4, increased by Abbot Monington in the latter half of the 14th century to 6, with a procession path, and chapels projecting to the E. The eye of the skilful antiquary will detect in the double respond the position of the original E. gable, and in the absence of the bench-table, and in the difference of the mouldings of the easternmost bays, the marks of Monington's addition. "The windows of the choir aisle are of the pointed Norman type throughout, ornamented with zigzag work of the late intricate kind in which straight lines alternate with the angles, as in the N. porch of Wells."—*Willis.* The inner arches of the nave windows are round, the outer pointed. The sills are higher than those of the choir, in consequence of the cloister standing against this aisle. The W. part, of which the central door remains, was fully developed E.E. of a later character, as at Wells.

The best preserved and most interesting portion of the ruins, "the loveliest building that Glastonbury can show, the jewel of late Romanesque on a small scale" (*E. A. F.*), is the ***Chapel of the Blessed Virgin,** corruptly known since the 15th century as **St. Joseph's Chapel,** annexed, like the Galilee or Lady Chapel at Durham, to the W. end of the great ch. This, as we have seen, stands on the site of the original wattled structure of the first missionaries, and may therefore be regarded as one of the most interesting buildings in the ecclesiastical history of our country. As it was first built in 1184 it was an isolated rectangular edifice of 4 bays, with a square turret terminating in a pyramidal cap at each angle. Subsequently the gap between it and the ch. was filled up by an E.E. addition of 3 bays, containing a broad flight of steps up to the W. door, added to give access to the ch. from the old cemetery of the monks on the S. and that of the laity to the N.; and, later still, the E. wall of the chapel was pierced with a large arch, under which stood the altar, with a reredos behind. The composition of St. Joseph's Chapel is singularly rich, the style of decoration florid, and the workmanship admirable. Rich interlacing arcades ornament the space beneath the windows within and without. Vaulting-shafts in quadruple groups carried the ribs of the groined roof. Two richly carved semicircular doorways

give access to the chapel on the N. and S.; 4 richly moulded windows light the chapel on each side, and a triplet pierces the W. wall; 2 of the 4 turrets, those to the S.E. and N.W., remain, and greatly add to the picturesque effect of the ruins.

The crypt is a later construction, formed in the 15th cent., not for ornament, but for use, to provide a place of sepulture for the many—kings and queens, bishops and nobles—who were coveting a final resting-place near the hallowed site of St. Joseph's bones. The vault is a flat 4-centred one, and the ribs of the roof and the shafts supporting them are curiously and economically constructed from old Norman voussoirs from some building then being demolished. [The architectural history of this crypt has been fully investigated by Professor Willis, with whose work on Glastonbury, from which the foregoing details are chiefly derived, the visitor should be provided.] A well, "which has attracted more attention than it deserves," as old as the chapel itself, originally outside the chapel walls, and unconnected with it, was discovered by Mr. Reeve in 1825, and is now reached from the crypt. It is surmounted by a Norman arch with very rich mouldings. There is no reason for accepting the popular belief of its ever having been "a holy well." The chapel was connected with the W. end of the church by an E.E. building, with a flat-topped arch of communication. Mr. Barratt supposes this building to have been a Galilee.

Of the abbey buildings within the precinct walls the only one standing is the magnificent ***Abbot's Kitchen**, 33½ ft. square within the walls, and 72 ft. high to the top of the lantern, now standing alone, and entered by a gate in St. Magdalene Street. This kitchen is a curious specimen of domestic architecture, and of ingenious construction. Externally it is a square building of very massive walls, strongly buttressed; within the 4 angles are occupied by fireplaces and chimneys, which convert the interior into an octagon. This is surmounted by a stone roof in the shape of an octagonal pyramid, which supports in the centre a double turret or lantern, pierced with an aperture to allow the vapour and heat to pass out. The structure of this open stonework is curious. It is commonly ascribed to Richard Whiting, the last abbot, c. 1524. It is, however, more probable that it was the work of Abbot Breynton, the style belonging to the end of the 14th, or the beginning of the 15th cent. Pugin assigned it to Abbot Chinnock, 1374–1420. It was once let to the Quakers as a meeting-house.

The **Abbot's Barn**, of the 14th cent., at the top of Chilkwell Street, is one of the finest and most richly ornamented of the monastic granaries still remaining. It is cruciform, the transepts forming the entrances, 93 ft. long, with a grand collar-beam roof. The gables present the 4 evangelistic symbols, and have rich traceried triangular windows. The apex of the gable is crowned by the figure of an abbot.

The **Entrance Gateway** for the laity and guests is merged in

the *Red Lion Inn*, in St. Mary Magdalene Street. The great gate is hidden by a modern house, erected in 1810; but the vaulted entrance for foot-passengers is still accessible. Over it is a small room known as "The Stone Chamber." There is a good Elizabethan oriel. Passing through the inn, in the yard at the back there is a small **Almshouse** for women, with a chapel, founded by Abbot Beere. The gateway to the almshouse yard displays the Abbot's rose and supporters, with the date 1512. At the W. end of the chapel are the arms of the abbey, a cross flory between 2 roses. The canting device of the founder, jugs of beer, also appears.

Towards the close of Edward VI.'s reign the abbey buildings, then the property of Protector Somerset, afforded a temporary home to a colony of foreign Protestants, weavers of kerseys, driven from Strasburg by the publication of the "Interim," with their pastor Pullain, or Valerandus Pollanus, who in 1551 published their order of service in Latin, which supplied some hints to the revisers of the Prayer-Book in 1552. The mercantile speculation proved unfortunate, and the accession of Mary soon broke up the colony, who removed to Frankfort.

The ***George Inn**, in High Street, the old pilgrims' hostelry, built by Abbot Selwood, temp. Edward IV., "is the best piece of domestic work in Glastonbury. The front is one splendid mass of panelling, pierced, where necessary, for windows. The centre is occupied by a 4-centred gateway, with a bay window to l. rising the whole height of the house."—*J. H. P.* The arms above the gate are those of the abbey and of Edw. IV., supported by the black bull of Clare and the white lion of Mortimer. There is a pillar and bracket for the support of the sign. The original newel staircase still gives access to the upper rooms.

A little higher up the street is the **Tribunal**, built by Abbot Beere, as the abbey court-house. The principal room has a wide square-headed window of 8 lights, with a large oriel above.

The **Market Cross**, at the junction of the 4 streets, is a feeble Gothic spirelet by Ferrey, erected in 1846 on the site of a picturesque gabled octagonal structure, with central column and pinnacle, and conduit attached (figured in Britton's "Arch. Ant."), allowed to fall into decay at the beginning of the century.

Glastonbury has 2 churches. The principal is **St. John the Baptist**, the tower of which is considered by Mr. Freeman as the third finest in Somersetshire, surpassed only by Wrington and St. Cuthbert's, Wells. It rises to a height of 140 ft., in 3 stories, and is richly adorned with canopied niches, and crowned with an open-work parapet and 8 slender pinnacles. The ch. is cruciform, and, like St. Cuthbert's at Wells, originally had a central tower, remains of the piers of which were discovered in the restoration of 1859. It is a fine example of Somersetshire Perp. owing its present form to Abbot John Selwood, 1485. The stone pulpit, designed by Scott, from fragments of an earlier one, was a gift of Lady Charlotte Neville

Grenville. At the S.W. end is an altar-tomb with recumbent effigy of one Camel, said to have been purse-bearer to one of the abbots of Glastonbury. Alternate panels contain figures of camels, the others bearing half angels holding shields charged with a cross. There is also an ancient parish chest with painted shields. The six bells are large, of a fine tone. The churchwardens possess a very handsome mediæval seal.

St. Benedict's (the true dedication being probably St. Benignus), in the street of the same name, is smaller and plainer; but the tower possesses much dignity. The pinnacles, blown down by a hurricane in 1703, have never been restored. The jugs of beer on its battlements show it to be the work of Abbot Beere, whose initials and mitre appear on the N. porch, which also contains a holy-water stoup. An inscription in the interior records one of the inroads of the sea which have from time to time devastated this district: "The breach of the sea flood was Jan. 20th, 1606." Tradition asserts that it reached the tower of this church.

The tourist should now visit **Wirrall Hill** and the **Tor Hill**; if he has time for only one, choosing the latter. The name *Wirrall* (said to be a Welsh word for a promontory or projecting hill) has been of late days metamorphosed into *Weary-all Hill*, in connection with the myth that it was here that St. Joseph and his companions, *weary all* with their long pilgrimage, first rested, and the leader of the band planted his hawthorn staff in the ground, which at once struck root and shot forth branches, and in memory of its sacred origin constantly put forth leaves and blossoms on Christmas Day.

This was the famous Glastonbury thorn, which flourished as one of the chief marvels of the holy site till the reign of Queen Elizabeth, when one of its two huge trunks was hacked down by a Puritan, who would have destroyed the other also had not his impious zeal been miraculously checked by one of his blows falling on his own leg, while a chip flying upwards put out his eye. The remaining trunk, the blossoms of which, we are told, were considered such curiosities that Bristol merchants carried them into foreign parts, survived till the Great Rebellion, when "a military saint," undeterred by the ill fate of his predecessor, felled it. The spot where it grew is marked by a stone bearing the letters I. A. A.D. XXXI., commemorating St. Joseph and the date of his supposed visit. Though the original Holy Thorn has passed away, the curious visitor may find several successors to its name and virtues in the neighbourhood. According to Withering, it is a distinct variety of the common hawthorn blossoming twice a year. "The winter blossoms," he says, "which are about the size of a sixpence, appear about Christmas, and sooner if the winter be severe." In 1752, when the change of style was made, the thorn was anxiously watched to see whether it would conform to the Act of Parliament, and great was the triumph of opponents of the change when the blossoms which had refused to appear on the new

Christmas Day came forth in full luxuriance on the old anniversary, Jan. 5th.

Besides the Holy Thorn, Glastonbury boasted of a miraculous walnut-tree that grew near St. Joseph's Chapel, and never shot out leaves till St. Barnabas' Day, June 11th. A branch of each of these sacred trees was presented to Anne of Denmark, James I.'s queen, by Bp. Montague.

The **Tor Hill**—"the island mount of St. Michael" (*E. A. F.*) – is a more formidable height to scale, being 500 ft. above the sea, and steep at one part. [Follow the Shepton Mallet road from the Barn for 200 yards, and turn off up the hill l. at the Tor Hill Inn. You are then in a straight path for the summit.] The hill is crowned by a beautiful tower, all that is left of a pilgrimage **chapel of St. Michael,** shattered by an earthquake or landslip, in 1271, and subsequently rebuilt in the ordinary Somersetshire Perp. type. Over the doorway are 2 rude bas-reliefs—a woman milking a cow and St. Michael weighing a soul against the devil in a pair of scales. Above are 7 canopied niches, in one of which a figure still remains; below the embattled parapet is another sculptured tablet representing an eagle with outstretched wings. Heavy buttresses support the building. The tower was restored in 1804, when the rubbish was cleared away, and the foundations of the chapel laid bare. To this elevated spot, in 1539, *Whiting*, last abbot of Glastonbury, as already related, was dragged on a hurdle, and hanged The view here is complete of the Avalonian hills, islanded in the marshes. In their lap lies the town, and behind it is Weary-all. Around the horizon the eye ranges freely, embracing in its view the Bristol Channel, Brent Knoll, the Mendips, and the cathedral of Wells, Sir Samuel Hood's monument on the hill at Butleigh, Alfred's tower on the heights of Wiltshire, the Polden and Quantock hills, Blackdown, Montacute, and Ham Hill. Nearer at hand, below the Tor, to the E., lies *Northwood*, now a farmhouse, but formerly a residence of the abbots, and centred in a deer-park 4 m. in circumference. You may descend the Tor on the N.E. side, visiting *Bushey Combe* on your way back to the town, which you will re-enter by Chilkwell Street.

In the middle of the last century, Glastonbury regained a short-lived celebrity from its mineral waters, rising at the foot of the Tor. One Matthew Chancellor having been cured of an asthma of 30 years' standing in 1751 by drinking of these waters in obedience to a dream, their fame spread, and visitors flocked hither from all parts of the kingdom in such numbers that lodgings could scarcely be procured. A pump-room was built, but the celebrity of the spring soon waned, and the hopes of the inhabitants of a golden harvest passed away. This spring, the once famous **"Blood Spring,"** is within the grounds of the Catholic Church. It is chalybeate in its nature, and the legend records that it occupies the spot where Joseph of Arimathea buried the chalice

used at the Last Supper. On the E. slope of Wirrall Hill are some fields called the *Vineyards*, where grapes were formerly grown for the use of the abbey.

Sharpham, 2 m. S.W., a manor house erected by Abbot Beere, and where Abbot Whiting was arrested, was in 1707 the birthplace of Henry Fielding, the author of "Tom Jones." He was born in what was known as "The Harlequin's Chamber," lighted by a small window that is seen over the chapel. What remains of the mansion is now a farmhouse.

Street, 1½ m. S.W. (Pop. of urban district 3535), a long straggling village, of blue lias, taking its name from the Roman road on which it stands, deserves to be visited for the collection of fossil fish and reptiles exhibited in the Crispin Institute, the gift of W. S. Clark, Esq., J.P., erected 1885, whose large factories of shoes and rugs will also reward inspection.

At **Butleigh,** 4 m. S. on the road to Somerton (2 m. farther), is

Butleigh Court (R. Neville Grenville, Esq., D.L., J.P.). This fine mansion has been rebuilt in part. The saloon measures 45 by 25 ft. Among the pictures are a full-length of the Rt. Hon. G. Grenville, the minister, by *Sir Josh. Reynolds*, and, by the same master, the Marchioness of Buckingham and her son, the first Duke. There are also full-lengths of the great Earl of Chatham and his countess, and other family portraits by *Gainsborough*, *Hoppner*, etc.

The *Ch.* originally consisted of a long narrow nave and chancel, with a groined tower between them, chiefly Dec.; N. and S. transepts have been added, and a N. aisle to the nave. The W. window is a fine Perp. one of 6 lights. The internal fittings are good. It contains an epitaph by Southey to the 3 brothers Hood—Arthur, lost in the *Pomona* in the Caribbean Sea, together with Falconer, author of "The Shipwreck"; Alexander, who sailed round the world with Cook, was killed in the *Mars*, and was grandfather to Sir A. Acland Hood; and Sir Samuel,

"With Keppel and with Rodney trained,"

who died of fever on the Coromandel coast.

On a commanding position on Polden Hill, a ridge of lias running E. and W., stands a monument to Admiral Sir Samuel Hood, erected by the subscriptions of his officers.]

[At Glastonbury the tourist should diverge to visit the cathedral and other architectural remains at the city of Wells, 6 m. N.E. He may either take the rly. or follow the causeway constructed across the marshes with the ruins of the abbey.]

✲ ***WELLS** (Pop. 4822) has two rly. stations close to each other to the W. of the city—that of the East Somerset branch of the *Great Western*, from Witham, on the Yeovil and Weymouth line; that of the Glastonbury branch of the *Somerset and Dorset* Rly., which joins the Great Western line at Highbridge, and the South-Western at Templecombe and Wimborne, affording communication with the Bristol Channel at Burnham N. and the

English Channel at Poole S.; this and the Cheddar Valley branch, running in on the W. from Yatton, form one through line. The trains run through the Somerset and Dorset station without stopping there.

Wells is a city and municipal borough, market and assize town; abundantly supplied with water from the copious springs which have given it its name; placed in a position of no ordinary beauty in a basin at the foot of the Mendip Hills, whose outliers rise round it like islands. (*Dulcot Hill* may be specially noticed as a detached craggy summit of much beauty.) Wells is perhaps the best example in England of a strictly ecclesiastical city, owing its existence and whatever importance it has had to the religious foundations of which from the time of King Ina (704) it has been the seat. Few towns of its size are so completely destitute of civil history. Happily for its quiet inhabitants, it was not the appanage of any baronial castle; the city itself was never protected by any fortified enclosure, nor does it play any part in the military annals of the country. Neither did it enjoy any commercial importance. It was not the seat of any considerable manufacture, though at an early date weaving was one of the staple trades, and at a later period silk mills were set on foot. About 250 years back it was noted for boots and shoes, and early in this century many hands were employed in the production of knitted hose. Little manufacture of any kind, except brushes, is now carried on, and the city has a drowsy old-world air.

The only events not strictly ecclesiastical illustrating the annals of Wells are the visit of Henry VII. in 1497, when on his march into the west against Perkin Warbeck, and its occupation by the Duke of Monmouth's forces, July, 1685, on their retreat from Philip's Norton, when they turned the cathedral into a stable, broached a barrel of beer on the communion table, and "tore the lead from the roof of the cathedral to make bullets, and wantonly defaced the ornaments of the building. Grey with difficulty preserved the altar from the insults of some ruffians who wished to carouse round it, by taking his stand before it with his sword drawn."—*Macaulay*. A description of this occurrence is given in Conan Doyle's novel "Micah Clarke." After the defeat of the insurgents a large number of the prisoners were confined at Wells, where they received daily temporal and spiritual relief from the saintly Ken.

The chief point of interest at Wells is, of course, the *Cathedral*, with the *Bishop's Palace*, the *Deanery*, the *Vicars' Close*, and the other dependent buildings of the great ecclesiastical establishment, which are here seen in a very unusual state of perfection, rendering this city one of the most interesting in Europe. "There is no other place where you can see so many of the ancient buildings still standing, and still put to their own use."—*E. A. F.* To the lover of picturesque and architectural beauty it affords no ordinary attractions; indeed, the visitor who comes with a mind attuned to the scene around him will not be slow to accept the somewhat eulogistic character given of Wells as "one of the most beautiful things in the world."

A short walk, with the towers of the cathedral as his guide, conducts the tourist from the station to the Market Place, whence an ancient gateway, known as **Penniless Porch** (from alms having been distributed to the poor there), gives access to the Cathedral Close. But perhaps the best point for approaching the cathedral is **Brown's Gate**, in Sadler Street, at the N.W. corner of the Cathedral Green. The full grandeur of the W. front is seen from this point. It rises at the end of a smooth, well-kept lawn, bordered with trees; and, with its towers, the antique front of the Deanery on the N., and the exquisite Chapter-house and Chain Gate to the N.E., forms a group of architectural objects rarely equalled. The **Close** is certainly inferior to that of Salisbury, and is perhaps surpassed by those of Peterborough and Winchester, but few can visit it without being singularly affected by its calm beauty. There is a profound peace about these precincts, the feeble sounds of the little town hushed and softened by distance, and all around breathing a holy calm.

The ***CATHEDRAL** "is the best example to be found in the whole world of a secular church, with its subordinate buildings," according to Mr. Freeman.

The first ecclesiastical foundation here was a college of secular canons founded by King Ina, 704, and endowed with additional privileges by succeeding kings of Wessex, until the place was selected as the seat of the new bishopric founded by Edward the Elder for Somerset. The first bishop was Athelm, Abbot of Glastonbury, translated to Canterbury, 914. Giso, the fifteenth in succession from Athelm, recovered after the Conquest the possessions of the see, which, it is said, had been seized by Harold during the Confessor's lifetime. He replaced the canons who had been expelled, and caused suitable buildings to be erected for them. His successor, John de Villula, influenced by the desire for safety in times of general disturbance, which had led to the transference of so many cathedrals to walled towns, removed the see to Bath, which he bought of Henry I. for 500 pounds of silver, together with the abbey, which he rebuilt from its foundations. This transference naturally gave rise to much jealousy and discord between the men of Bath and Wells, until in the time of his next successor but one, Bishop Robert of Lewes, the first "maker of Wells," 1136–66, it was determined that the bishop should be in future elected by the monks of Bath and the canons of Wells jointly, and should be styled "Bishop of Bath and Wells." Another squabble arose in the time of Bishop Savaric, 1192–1205, with the monks of Glastonbury. Savaric is said to have been a relation of the Emperor Henry VI. of Germany, and to have received that bishopric from Richard Cœur-de-Lion in return for kindnesses shown to the monarch while in captivity, stipulation having been previously made that the rich abbey of Glastonbury should be annexed to the see, the Bishop resigning the town of Bath to the king. The monks of Glastonbury stoutly resisted this enforced union, and at last on an appeal to Rome, in the episcopate of Bishop Joceline (Trotman), his successor, 1206–1242, obtained its dissolution, on condition of resigning four of their best manors to the bishop. Reginald

and Joceline were amongst the greatest benefactors of the see of Wells, having nearly rebuilt the cathedral from the foundations, besides erecting other buildings, and augmenting endowments—"God," says Fuller of the latter prelate, "to square his great undertakings, giving him a long life to his large heart." Among the subsequent prelates we may mention William de la March, 1293–1302, the instigator of the forced loan by which, before the war in Guienne, Edward I. swept into his exchequer the accumulated wealth of the religious houses of his realm. John Drokensford, 1309-1329, appointed guardian of the realm in 1312, during the absence of Edward II. in France, but afterwards attached to Queen Isabella's party. "He took," says an old historian of Wells, "some care of his diocese, but far more of his family." Thos. Beckington, 1443–1464, who emulated William of Wykeham in his love of building and his architectural skill, his handiwork meeting us at every turn in Wells. Robert Stillington, 1465-1491, Lord High Chancellor 1468, accused of complicity in Simnel's imposture, and imprisoned at Windsor till his death. Bishop Stillington built a lady chapel on the E. side of the cloister destroyed by Sir J. Gates, "a greate puritan, episcopacie's common enemy," to whom it had been granted by Bp. Barlow on the understanding that it was cleared off the ground within four years, in 1552. Some of the interior decorations of the W. end still remain. Oliver King, 1495–1503, the builder of Bath Abbey Church. Cardinal Wolsey, 1518–23. William Barlow, 1548–54, the first married bishop. Archbishop Laud, 1626–28. Thomas Ken, 1684-90, who from his saintly character is now perhaps the most generally remembered of all his predecessors and successors in connection with the see of Bath and Wells; and the intruding Kidder, killed with his wife, as they lay in bed in the palace, by the fall of a stack of chimneys in the great storm commemorated by Defoe, Nov. 26th, 1703.

The Saxon cathedral, which had fallen into complete decay, was repaired and partly rebuilt by *Bishop Robert*, 1136-1166, his Norman church being consecrated in 1148. Of neither Saxon nor Norman buildings are any definite traces left. "Seldom has one of these strong Norman buildings so utterly vanished from sight."—*Dearmer. Bishop Reginald de Bohun* (1174-1191) began the present edifice, as shown by a recently-discovered charter of a date prior to 1180, and to him is due the erection of the three western bays of the *choir* (which then formed the *presbytery*), the *transepts*, *north porch*, and the eastern bays of the *nave*. *Bishop Joceline*, 1206–1242, brother of St. Hugh of Avallon, Bp. of Lincoln, continued Reginald's work, completing the three western bays of the *nave* on their originally intended lines, and erecting the magnificent *west front*. In 1239 he consecrated the church.

About 1286, during the episcopate of *Bishop Burnell*, 1275–1292, the *crypt* of the chapter-house seems to have been completed, and the *chapter-house* itself is generally assigned to the time of *Bishop William de Marchia*, 1293–1302. In 1321, under *Bishop Drokensford*, 1309–29, the *central tower* was raised to its present height; and *Bp. Ralph* of Shrewsbury (1329-63) completed the *choir* by the addition of the 3 easternmost bays, and built the *retro-choir* connecting the *presbytery* with the *Lady Chapel*. At a later period of his episcopate he

carried out the vaulting of the *choir*, and the construction of the great *east window*.

The upper portion of the *S.W. tower* was the work of *Bishop Harewell*, 1366–1386; and the *N.W. tower* was raised by the executors of *Bishop Bubwith*, 1425, who also built the E. walk of the *cloister*, with the library over it. The W. cloister-walk and part of the S. were the work of *Bishop Beckington*, 1443–1464. The latter was completed, soon after Beckington's death, by *Thomas Henry*, Treasurer of Wells.

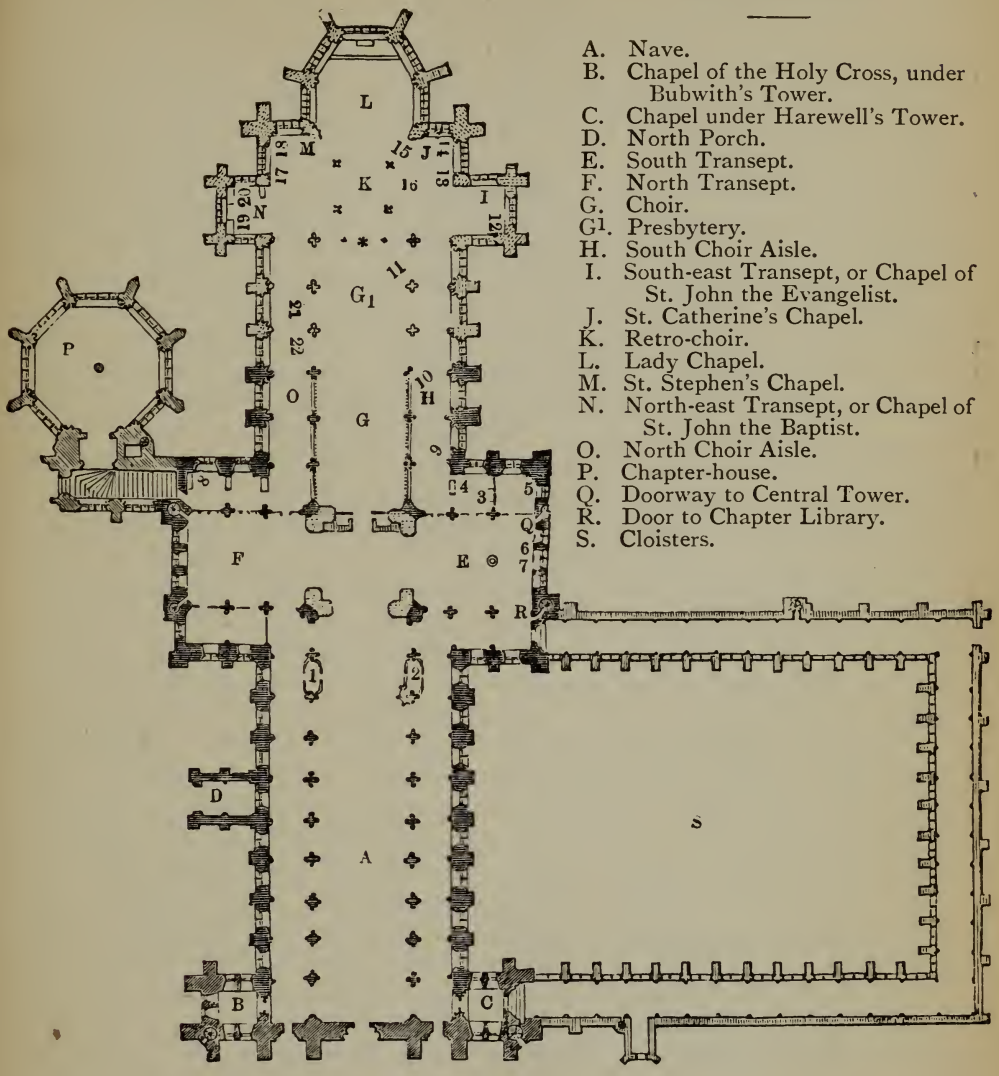
The cathedral displays very rich work of the E.E. period, full of local peculiarities, which distinguish it from any other building of its date, in the nave and transepts, E.E. of a more usual type in the W. front, and excellent examples of Early Dec. in choir, Lady Chapel, and chapter-house. "Though one of the smallest, it is perhaps, taken altogether, the most beautiful of English cathedrals. The W. towers, above the roof, clerestory and aisle windows, and cloisters, are Perp. Externally its three well-proportioned towers group so gracefully with the chapter-house, the remains of the vicars' close, the ruins of the bishop's palace, and the tall trees by which it is surrounded, that there is no instance so characteristic of English art, nor an effect so pleasing produced with the same dimensions."—*Fergusson.*

The best near views of the cathedral are from an eminence on the Shepton Mallet road, about a quarter of a mile from the city, and from the terrace in the garden of the palace. The former view is very striking, and should not be missed. [To gain the spot take a stile to the l., and follow the path to a stile rt., which leads into the coppice whence the view is obtained.]

The cathedral, with the exception of its pilasters of Purbeck, is built with stone from Doulting, about 7 m. from Wells. These quarries, which are still worked, are in the inferior oolite, and the stone differs but little from that of the Bath quarries, which are in the great oolite. The quarry which is said to have supplied the stone for both Wells and Glastonbury is called "St. Andrew's."

"The *West front* of Wells," says old Fuller, "is a masterpiece of art indeed, made of imagery in just proportion, so that we may call them 'vera et spirantia signa.' England affordeth not the like. For although the west end of Exeter beginneth accordingly, it doth not, like Wells, persevere to the end thereof." "The sculptures of its western façade," says a modern critic, "are quite unrivalled; and with the architectural accompaniments make up a whole such as can only be found at Rheims or Chartres."—*Fergusson.* The varied outlines, the numberless sculptures, and the slender detached shafts which stretch upward tier above tier, still make the façade of this cathedral more interesting and more impressive than that of any other English cathedral.

The breadth of the W. front of Wells (147 ft.) is considerably greater than that of the fronts of either Notre-Dame (136 ft.) or of Amiens (116 ft.), both of them contemporary buildings.



REFERENCES

A. Nave.
B. Chapel of the Holy Cross, under Bubwith's Tower.
C. Chapel under Harewell's Tower.
D. North Porch.
E. South Transept.
F. North Transept.
G. Choir.
G1. Presbytery.
H. South Choir Aisle.
I. South-east Transept, or Chapel of St. John the Evangelist.
J. St. Catherine's Chapel.
K. Retro-choir.
L. Lady Chapel.
M. St. Stephen's Chapel.
N. North-east Transept, or Chapel of St. John the Baptist.
O. North Choir Aisle.
P. Chapter-house.
Q. Doorway to Central Tower.
R. Door to Chapter Library.
S. Cloisters.

REFERENCES

1. Bp. Bubwith's Chantry.
2. Treasurer Sugar's Chantry.
3. Dean Husee's Tomb.
4. Chapel of St. Calixtus.
5. Tomb of Canon Biconyll.
6. Monument of Lady de Lisle.
7. Monument of Bp. de Marchia.
8. Tomb of Bp. Cornish.
9. Monument of Bp. Bytton II.
10. Effigy of Beckington.
11. Effigy of Bp. Harewell.
12. Dean Gunthorpe's Tomb.
13. Bp. Burhwold.
14. Bp. Duduc.
15. John Marcel's Monument.
16. Bp. Drokensford.
17. Bp. Leofric.
18. Bp. Ethelwyn.
19. Dean Forrest's Tomb.
20. Bp. Creyghton.
21. Bp. Gisa.
22. Effigy of Bp. Ralph of Shrewsbury.

* Altar.

GROUND PLAN OF WELLS CATHEDRAL. Scale 100 ft. to 1 in.

The marked difference in architectural character between the W. front and the interior of the nave, which puzzled Professor Willis, is now explained by the discovery of the fact that one was the design of Bp. Reginald, and the other of Bp. Joceline.

The front consists of a centre, in which are the three lancets of the W. window, and above them a screen to the gable receding in stages, with small pinnacles at the angles; and of two wings or W. towers, projecting beyond the nave, as at Salisbury. The upper portions of these towers are of Perp. character, and, from the design never having been completed, have a somewhat truncated appearance. The three W. doors are unusually small, a great defect in this otherwise matchless front. Six buttresses, at the angles of which are slender shafts of Kilkenny marble, very ineffectively replacing the original shafts of blue lias, supporting canopies, divide the entire front into five portions.

The identification of the "populus statuarum" which throng the front of the cathedral is still uncertain. These figures, many of which are of striking excellence, were probably the work of Italian sculptors, brought over, it may have been, from Pisa by Bp. Joceline. The general idea is "that the south side of the front is mainly 'spiritual,' *i.e.*, devoted to ecclesiastics, whilst the north is temporal, and that the whole of the fourth and fifth tiers do represent certain leading historical figures." —*Rev. P. Dearmer* (whose excellent little book on Wells contains a full list of the figures as at present identified). Below the central gable six tiers of sculpture may be recognized, all of which encircle the N.W. tower. The *first*, or lowest, now nearly empty in front, consisted of full-length figures under canopies. The *second* is a series of small quatrefoils, in which are half-length angels holding crowns, mitres, etc., in their hands. The *third* contains a series of subjects from the Old and New Testaments. (See below.) The *fourth* and *fifth* tiers are of full-length statues. "They no doubt represent the kings, bishops, and heroes of English history from Egbert to Henry II." The *sixth* exhibits the final resurrection in a series of small figures of most remarkable character and design. The three stages of the *central gable* have statues representing the nine orders of the celestial hierarchy, the Twelve Apostles, and, above all, the Saviour in majesty. Only the feet of this last figure remain. "It seems to have been mutilated by Monmouth's soldiers, for it still bears the marks of their bullets." The two figures on either side of this in the now empty niches were the Blessed Virgin and St. John the Baptist.

In the tympanum within the porch is the Virgin seated on a throne, treading on a serpent, and supporting the Divine Infant, displaying remains of colour. In a niche above this porch is a coronation of the Virgin; the heads of the figures are destroyed.

The number of figures on the entire W. front is upwards of 300, of which 152 are either life-size or colossal.

The *third* tier of sculpture contains medallions with subjects from the Old and New Testaments, the Old on the S. of the central porch, the New on the N. Both commence from the porch, and are divided by the niche containing the coronation of the Virgin. On the S. the subjects still remaining are—The Creation of Man; The Creation of Woman; The Garden of Eden; The Temptation; The Almighty in the Garden; Adam and Eve at Labour; Cain's Sacrifice; *God Decreeing the Deluge; Noah Building the Ark; The Ark itself; The Sacrifice on Ararat; Isaac and Rebecca; Isaac's Blessing; The Death of Jacob.

On the N. are *St. John the Evangelist; The Nativity; Christ among the Doctors; St. John in the Wilderness; Mission of the Apostles; Christ in the Wilderness; Christ Preaching; The Anointing; *The Transfiguration. — (Proceeding round the tower, on the north side): The Mount of Olives; The Calling of Nicodemus; The Entry into Jerusalem; The Consultation with the High Priest; *The Last Supper; Christ before Pilate; The Bearing of the Cross; Elevation of the Cross; The Deposition; The Resurrection; The Gift of Tongues.

A very high value as works of art was attached to the sculptures at Wells by Flaxman, who selected the Death of Jacob, the figure of St. John, and the Creation of Eve for the beauty of their composition, and made from them careful drawings. "The work," he says, "is necessarily ill-drawn and deficient in principle, and much of the sculpture is rude and severe; yet in parts there is a beautiful simplicity, an irresistible sentiment, and sometimes a grace excelling more modern productions."

The *sixth* tier of sculpture contains 92 compositions of the general resurrection, "startling in significance, pathos, and expression," says Mr. Cockerell, "worthy of John of Pisa, or of a greater man, John Flaxman." The whole will repay the artist's most careful examination.

The figures of angels in the first stage of the central gable represent the 9 orders of the celestial hierarchy. In the stage above are figures of the apostles, St. Andrew and St. John occupying the two central niches, immediately under the feet of the Saviour; and in the uppermost stage was the Saviour in majesty, supported on either side by the Virgin and St. John. The circles of the sun and moon, attended by smaller stars, occupy the spandrils above the central niche.

The bending of the quatrefoiled recesses round the angles is a defect in this generally beautiful composition; but Professor Willis has truly observed that what looks "strained and stiff now that they are empty was elegantly relieved when they were filled with sculpture."

Passing round the N.W. angle of the building, the visitor should now inspect the *N. porch* (D), the architectural character of which differs from that of the W. front, although it belongs, like it, to the E.E. period. It was apparently the first piece of work undertaken by Bp. Reginald, c. 1185 The entrance is deeply

recessed, and with the inner door has the zigzag ornament among its interlacing mouldings, an indication of lingering Norman traditions. The dripstone is formed of a very beautiful combination of E.E. foliage. Square panels on either side of the arch contain figures of mystic animals, one of which is a cockatrice. In the gable above a small triplet gives light to a parvis chamber. From the flat and narrow buttresses at the angles rise slender spire-capped pinnacles. The interior walls are lined with a double arcade, the upper more deeply recessed than the lower. The vault springs from groups of triple shafts. The capitals on the E. side represent the death of King Edmund the Martyr (A.D. 870)—bound to a tree as a mark for the Danish arrows, and afterwards beheaded. The N.E. capital in the interior has a figure of a man shooting at a bird with a bow in the midst of foliage.

The walls of both nave and aisles are capped by a Dec. parapet. The windows of the aisles and clerestory are Perp. The picturesque grouping of the transept, the chapter-house with its staircase, and the **Chain Gate** with the gallery above it, leading to the *Vicars' Close*, should here be especially noticed. It is an admirable though simple piece of work. The stags' heads of Bp. Beckington's arms and a figure of St. Andrew will be observed upon it. On the W. buttress of the N. transept is the face of the *clock*, with the motto "Ne quid pereat." Two figures in armour of the 15th century strike the quarters with their battle-axes.

The visitor should go through this gate and proceed some little distance along the road for the sake of the view of the stately central tower, chapter-house, Lady Chapel, and the E. portions of the cathedral. The difference of style between the 3 E. and 3 W. bays of the choir is here plainly, and, we may add, disagreeably, discernible. In the clerestory of the latter, very plain Dec. windows with simple intersecting mullions have been inserted some distance below the original E.E. window arch to range with those of the E. portion, which are rich Dec. with ogee canopies. Another unpleasing distinction is that in the E. bays the high-pitched roof of the aisles is discontinued, and the clerestory windows are brought down to the level of the parapet. The **Chapter-house**, a massive, buttressed octagon with an undercroft, has interesting gargoyles.

The **Lady Chapel**, one of the most beautiful examples of Dec. in England, has a plan of singular complication. It is an irregular octagon with very fine 5-light Dec. windows, the heads filled with a rich succession of trefoiled triangles, on 5 sides, and is connected with the choir by a low E. transept, which breaks the outline in a very pleasing manner. The chapel is singular in standing entirely clear of the choir, and rising higher than the aisles. The best view of this portion of the church, one of the most extraordinary beauty and interest, is that from the open space on the S.E., near which are the springs of usually clear crystalline water —the *wells* from which the city took its name.

The **central tower,** rich in ornament, and excellent in proportions, displays a later masking of an earlier work. Each face is of 3 bays, with ogee lights, divided by small pinnacled buttresses, and spire-crowned turrets at the corners.

Returning through the Chain Gate to the W. front, the visitor may now enter the **nave** (A), restored by Ferrey 1842, which is of excellent proportions. Its chief defect is the continuous line of the triforium arcade, unbroken by vaulting-shafts, thus severing the elevation into 3 distinct horizontal divisions.

The visitor should immediately take his place at the extreme W. end, from which point an excellent general view is obtained.

The huge inverted arches beneath the tower, dating from c. 1338, when it was found necessary to provide additional support for the enormous weight of the superstructure, at once attract the attention. Designedly or not, they form the cross of St. Andrew, the patron saint of the cathedral. The view into the choir is injuriously intercepted by these arches. It is easy to see marks of the crushing process, due to the weight of the tower, in the nave arcade. The string-courses have been dragged down, and the E. arch on each side entirely reconstructed. The nave is 38 ft. wide between the columns, 82 ft. from wall to wall, including the aisles. The length, from the W. door to the choir, is 192 ft., the height 67 ft. The choir is 117 ft. in length, and the entire length of the cathedral is 383 ft. within the walls and 415 without.

This nave, commenced by *Bp. Reginald* (1174-91) and finished by *Bp. Joceline* (1206-44), and built throughout during the E.E. period, offers some very remarkable peculiarities. "By many this structure would be designated as an E.E. cathedral, but Wells evidently is only a little removed from the Norman style ; it is only an improved Norman design, worked with considerable ornament : the mouldings in particular are of an especial richness." The difficulty felt by Willis in accounting for the peculiarities of the architecture has been cleared up, as stated above, by the decipherment of documents with which he was unacquainted, and which have given to Bp. Reginald the honour which was so long withheld from him. "Thus we are able to divide the E.E. work into no less than 4 periods : (1) The 3 W. arches of the choir, with the 4 W. bays of its aisles, the transepts, and the 4 E. bays of the nave, which are Reginald's work (1174-91), and so early as to be still in a state of transition from the Norman. It is a unique example of transitional building, and Willis calls it 'an improved Norman, worked with considerable lightness and richness, but distinguished from the E.E. by greater massiveness and severity.' The characteristics of this late 12th century work are bold round mouldings, square abaci, capitals, some with traces of the classical volute, others interwoven with fanciful imagery that reminds us of the Norman work of Glastonbury, while in the N. porch, which must be the earliest of all, we find even the zigzag Norman moulding. (2) The rest of the

nave, which was finished in Jocelin's time—that is to say, in the first half of the 13th century—preserves the main characteristics of the earlier work, though the flowing sculptured foliage becomes more naturalistic, and lacks the quaint intermingling of figure subjects. (3) The W. front, which is Jocelin's work, and alone can claim to be of pure E.E. style. (4) The chapter-house crypt, which is so late as to be almost Transitional, though, curiously enough, it contains the characteristic E.E. dog-tooth moulding, which is found nowhere else except in the W. window. From this we reach the early Dec. of the staircase, the full Dec. of the chapter-house itself, the later Dec. of the Lady Chapel, the Transitional Dec. of the presbytery, and the full Perp. of the W. towers."—*Dearmer.*

The nave is of 10 bays, divided by octangular piers, with clustered shafts in groups of 3. The capitals are enriched with E.E. foliage, much of which, as above stated, is of unusually classical character. Birds, animals, and monsters of various forms twine and perch among the foliage. Above the pier arches runs the triforium, very deeply set, extending to the interior of the triforium gallery. The narrow lancet openings are arranged in groups of 3, with thick wall-plates between them. The head of each lancet is filled with a solid tympanum, displaying foliage and grotesques, of which those toward the upper end of the S. side are especially curious. Triple shafts, with enriched capitals, form the vaulting shafts, the corbels supporting which deserve examination. The capitals of the piers will repay careful attention, and the following should be specially noted :—

N. pier 6 (by N. porch).—Birds pluming their wings; beast licking itself; ram; bird with human head

Pier 8.—Fox stealing goose, peasant following with stick; birds pruning their feathers (within Bubwith's Chapel); human monster with fish's tail, holding a fish; bird holding frog in its beak, which is extremely long and delicate.

Pier 9.—Pedlar carrying his pack on his shoulders, a string of large beads in one hand; toothless monster with hands on knees.

S. Pier 7.—Birds with human heads, one wearing a mitre.

Pier 8.—Peasant, with club, seized by a lion; bird with curious foliated tail (within St. Edmund's Chapel); owl; peasant with mallet.

A clerestory window (the tracery is Perp., inserted by Bp. Beckington, 1443-64) opens between each bay of the vaulting, which is groined, with moulded ribs, and bosses of foliage at the intersections. The interlacing pattern in red, traced on the vaulting, is a restoration of the original design discovered on the removal of the whitewash.

In the central bay S. of the nave, level with the clerestory, is the **music gallery**, of Early Perp. character, the front divided into 3 panels, with large quatrefoils containing shields.

Two brackets in the fourth bay probably supported a timber gallery. One of these is terminated by the head of a king

holding a falling child in his arms, the other by a bishop with women and children about him. Sir John Harrington says that "the old men of Wells had a tradition that when there should be such a king and such a bishop, then the Church should be in danger of ruin." At the time of the Reformation the king was said to be Henry VIII., and the bishop Barlow, the first married occupant of the see.

The W. end and window are best seen from the upper part of the nave, under the tower arches. The lower part of the wall presents an arcade of 5 arches, of which the central arch, wider than the rest, is pierced for the double W. door. The window above is a triplet, divided by triple shafts springing from the wall without bases. These shafts have Perp. mouldings, and there is a Perp. parapet at the sill, indicating that this part of the interior was partially rebuilt during the 15th century, although the original design was not altered.

The cinque-cento *glass* in this window was principally collected on the Continent by Dean Creyghton (afterwards bishop, 1670–72). It illustrates the life (legendary as well as authentic) of St. John the Baptist, and was brought partly from Rouen and partly from Cologne. The date 1507, with the inscription, "Sancti Johannis Decollatio," is traceable on one of the lights. The figures of King Ina and of Bp. Ralph of Shrewsbury are Perp., and possibly formed part of the glazing toward which Bp. Harewell, about 1385, gave 100 marks.

The **side aisles** are of the same character as the nave, and the same two periods may be traced in them. Many of the capitals are worthy of particular attention. The windows, like those of the clerestory, were filled with Perp. tracery by Bp. Beckington.

Opening from the aisles are **chapels** in the two W. towers (B, C), both true E.E., with the same ringed shafts as on the exterior. The S.W. tower contains a peal of eight bells, and a doorway opens from it into the W. walk of the cloisters. In the N.W. tower is the Chapel of the Holy Cross, for years used as the Consistory Court, now the choir-boys' vestry.

The beautiful *chantries* between the second and third piers (counting from the E.) are those of Bp. Bubwith and Dr. Hugh Sugar. The screen-work and cornices of **Bp. Bubwith's chantry** (1) (d. 1424), on the N. side, are of extreme grace and delicacy. The arms of the Bishop appear on the interior of the chantry, all the details of which are well worth examination.

To the S. the **chantry of Hugh Sugar** (2) (d. 1489), Treasurer of Wells, and one of Bp. Beckington's executors, although of the same general character as Bp. Bubwith's, exhibits many indications of a later style. The fan-tracery of the roof and the canopied niches above the altar deserve notice. On the cornice are angels (compare those on Bp. Beckington's chantry) bearing shields with the five sacred wounds, the cipher of the founder, his arms, 3 sugar-loaves surmounted by a doctor's cap, and the arms of Glastonbury Abbey.

The **stone pulpit** adjoining the chantry was the work of *Bp. Knight* (1541–47), who is buried near it. On the front is his shield of arms. The inscription surrounding it runs, "Preache thov the worde; be fervent in season and ovt of season, reprove, rebvke, exhort, in all longsoffryng & doctryne. II. Tim. 3."

Near the pulpit is the **lectern**, a brass double desk, the gift of Dr. Robert Creyghton, dean and afterwards bishop, on his return from exile with Charles II., as an inscription thereon relates.

On the S. side of Bubwith's chantry is the grave of Bp. Haselshaw (*ob.* 1308), and at the W. of Sugar's that of Bp. Erghum (*ob.* 1401).

From the nave we pass into the **transept**. Both transepts are E.E., but earlier than the nave. Both have E. and W. aisles, with 3 windows at the N. and S. ends, and a triplet in the place of the clerestory. In each the triforium is arranged in groups of 2 openings, and has none of the rich ornamentation which it displays in the nave. The vaulting shafts spring from corbels below the triforium between each 2 openings.

The **capitals* of the piers in both transepts display great richness and variety, but those in the S. transept are especially curious and interesting. On the *first* pier of the W. aisle remark the small figure of Elias. (Moses, with the tablets of the law, is similarly placed in the opposite transept.) On the *second* pier are a figure extracting a thorn from the foot, a man with the toothache, and other grotesque subjects. The *third* pier tells a story at length. Beginning at the side nearest the S. window, we have (1) two men stealing grapes from a vineyard; (2) the discovery of the theft by the vine-dressers, one of whom carries a pitchfork; (3) one of the thieves is caught by the ear and threatened with the pitchfork; and (4) the second is caught and receives castigation with the pitchfork. The spirit and expression of all these sculptures are admirable. The capitals on the W. side of both transepts contain many representations of persons suffering from the toothache, due to the fact that Bp. William Bytton, or Button (*ob.* 1274), was invoked for the cure of that disease. He does not appear to have ever been regularly canonized, but was venerated as a saint.

The E. aisle of the S. transept is divided into two chapels, with Dec. windows. The **Chapel of St. Calixtus**, nearest the choir, is enclosed by part of the ironwork from Beckington's tomb; and the E. end is occupied by the canopy belonging to the same monument, most improperly placed here in 1850. It has been richly coloured. The vine-carving of the cornice should be remarked. It contains the monument, with effigy, of **Treasurer Husee** (3) (d. 1305.) The eight panels in front of the tomb display alternately shields and sculptured figures, the latter representing the Annunciation and the Eternal Father holding the crucifix. Between are three figures of ecclesiastics, whose robes are especially noteworthy. "There is no better representation of mediæval choir vestments in existence than these three

figures."—*Dearmer*. The screen and canopy above are Perp.

In the chapel called **St. Martin's,** and now used as the canons' vestry, is the tomb, with effigy, of **William Biconyll** (4), Canon of Wells and Chancellor of Canterbury (1454). The canopy is much enriched.

Among the monuments against the S. wall of the transept are that of **Joanna, Viscountess Lisle** (5) (d. 1464), an arched canopy, with remains of rich painting, discovered in 1809, and the inscription restored (Lady Lisle was the daughter of Thomas Cheddar; her husband was the son of John Talbot, the celebrated Earl of Shrewsbury, under whom he served in France, and was killed at the battle of Chatillon, 1453); and that of **Bp. William de Marchia** (6) (d. 1302). The effigy lies in a recess below the central window, enclosed in front by a screen of three open arches with rich canopies. The canopy has been richly coloured. A chamber behind this tomb, reached by a passage from an ogee-headed doorway, may have been a watching-chamber or a place for the keeping of relics.

The **font** in this transept is Late Norm., and the only remaining relic of Bp. Robert's Norm. church. It has a Jacobean cover. A door in the S.W. angle leads to the cloisters, a smaller one (R) to the chapter library, and one in the S.E. angle to the central tower.

The N. transept is of precisely the same architectural character as the S. All the sculptures—the capitals of the piers and the corbels of the vaulting shafts—should be noticed. On the *capitals* remark the figure of Moses.

The W. aisle of this transept is closed by a heavy screen of Perp. date, and was divided into two chapels. In the E. aisle (which has Dec. windows, and, like that in the S. transept, is probably altogether of later date) are two chapels, one probably that of **St. David,** containing the tomb of **Bp. Still** (d. 1607), the effigy vested in scarlet; the other that of the **Holy Cross,** containing the tombs of **Bp. Kidder,** killed in the great storm, 1703, his wife and daughter, and **Thomas Cornish** (7) (d. 1513), "Tinensis Episcopus," titular bishop of Tenos in the Archipelago, and suffragan of Bath and Wells from 1486 to 1513. Mr. Dearmer believes that this tomb was also used as an Easter sepulchre, that is, the place where the Host was deposited from Holy Thursday until Easter Sunday morning. Adjoining this tomb is a door opening to the chapter-house staircase.

The very curious ***clock** in this transept was originally the work of Peter Lightfoot, a monk of Glastonbury, about 1325, somewhat earlier than that in the cathedral of Exeter. The faces of both show the hour of the day, the age of the moon, and the position of the planets. Above the dial-plate is a platform, on which are four mounted figures, which, as the clock proclaims the hour, start into action and hurry rapidly round. The quarters are struck by a sitting figure in the N.W. angle, which uses its heels for the purpose. This individual is popularly

known as "Jack Blandiver." The works of this clock are entirely new.

The **inverted arches,** supporting the central tower, may be examined before entering the choir. The effect as seen from the nave aisles and from the angles of the transepts is singular, but far from agreeable. The enormous support and strength afforded by them is, however, evident. The tower itself is of E.E. date as far as the roofs. In 1318 the canons voluntarily taxed themselves to the extent of a fifth part of their income in order to raise this tower, which was accordingly carried up three more stages, and completed in 1321. In 1337 and 1338 convocations were called in great dismay on account of a settlement in the work of the tower, which had caused extensive fractures or cracks. In order to remedy this, the double arches were inserted; the original arches were patched and filled in with large blocks of stone; and the adjoining arches of the triforium were blocked up to transmit part of the weight in a lateral direction. The fan-tracery of the vault is Perp., and probably the work of Bp. Beckington. This vaulting hides the original lantern, with its arcades, which can be seen by those who ascend the tower.

The **choir-screen,** Dec., was enlarged by Salvin in order to support the organ. The entrances to the choir aisles, very beautiful Late Dec., should especially be noticed. The **organ,** originally built in 1664, under the direction of Dean, afterwards Bp., Creyghton (himself a musician of no common order, whose services and anthems are still in use), was entirely rebuilt, enlarged, and improved by Willis in 1848, only one of the original stops now remaining.

The **choir** (G) was restored under the direction of Mr. Salvin, 1848–54. The stone stalls, pulpit, and the arrangements about the altar, are entirely new; the lierne vaulting, of very unusual pattern, has been decorated in polychrome.

The first 3 piers and arches of the choir are E.E., of the same character as those of the nave and transepts, and are probably the work of Bp. Reginald. In all probability these 3 bays formed a presbytery, the ritual choir occupying the space under the tower, and 3 bays of the nave. The eastern portion, including the whole of the vaulting, as well as the face of the triforium and clerestory above the first 3 bays, is an addition in rich Late Dec. (geometrical). An entry among the chapter muniments, under date 1325, which states that each dignitary agreed to pay for his own stall when the choir was refitted, as the old stalls had become "ruinous and misshapen," shows that some scheme was in contemplation in connection with the choir. It was, however, during the bishopric of Ralph of Shrewsbury (1329–63) that this part of the choir was actually erected. Mr. Freeman thus contrasts the two different pieces of work: "The new work, though exceedingly graceful, is perhaps too graceful; it has a refinement and minuteness of detail which is thoroughly in place in a small building like the Lady Chapel, but which gives a sort of feeling

of weakness when it is transferred to a principal part of the church of the full height of the building. The three elder arches are all masculine vigour; the three newer arches are all feminine elegance; but it strikes me that feminine elegance, thoroughly in its place in the small chapels, is hardly in its place in the presbytery."

The tabernacle-work, masking the E.E. triforium which remains behind, and the window tracery of the first 3 bays, although of the same date, are less rich than those of the eastern half of the choir. In this latter portion remark the triple-banded shafts of Purbeck, carried quite to the roof as vaulting-shafts, and the tabernacle-work occupying the place of the triforium, deeper and wider than in the lower bays. Under each arch is a short triple shaft, supporting a bracket richly carved in foliage, which has evidently been studied from nature.

The E. end of the choir is formed by 3 arches, supported by slender piers, above which is some very rich tabernacle-work, surmounted by an E. window of unusual design. At the back of the altar, and between the piers, is a low diapered screen, beyond which are seen the arches and stained windows of the retro-choir and Lady Chapel. This screen is part of the new work, and the excellent effect obtained by it—at once revealing and concealing the portions beyond it—is singularly picturesque.

The **choir-stalls** are entirely modern, belong, like the pulpit, to one of the worst periods of art, and are arranged in groups of 5 within each arch, and not, as in ancient arrangements, in front of them unbrokenly. Though greater width is thus gained for the choir, the novelty is hardly to be commended.

The old **misereres** are replaced in the lower seats, with the exception of four which are now in the Library. They are Early Dec., and exhibit the usual grotesques and foliage. There are, perhaps, few finer specimens of this class of work in England. A full account, with figures, will be found in "Archæologia," vol. lv., pt. 2.

The **pulpit**, carved from a solid block of freestone, was the gift of Dean Jenkyns and his wife in 1853. The **bishop's throne**, surmounted by a canopy in three compartments, is said to have been originally erected by Bp. Beckington about 1450, but may have been earlier. The present "restoration" has been so successful that all traces of the original idea have vanished.

Of the **stained glass** in the choir, that in the E. and 2 adjoining windows is ancient, dating from the early part of the 14th century (about 1330), and is therefore the original glazing; the choir itself, it has already been seen, was approaching completion in 1325. The E. window is of singular design. The lower lights are filled with a stem of Jesse, terminating, as at Bristol, with our Saviour on the cross, and the tracery lights with a representation of the Day of Judgment. The central figure in the lower line is that of Jesse; the others are probably his ancestors. "Amminadab" and "Obed" are inscribed on two of the pedes-

tals; the others are nameless. The centre of the upper line is occupied by the Blessed Virgin and the Child. On either side are three kings, David, Solomon, and Jechonias, and three prophets, Abraham, Hosea, and Daniel.

The clerestory windows had originally a figure and canopy in each of their lower lights. "One of the figures, in the N. window next the E., represents St. George, helmeted, and clad in a surcoat which reaches to the knee. The rest of his person is defended with mail. The costume of this figure appears to harmonize with the date assigned to the glass. In the tracery lights of this window is a continuation of the Judgment in the E. window."—*Winston.* In the W. window are St. Egidius and St. Gregory. In the centre of the choir was buried Bp. Joceline. A modern inscription marks the spot, the old monument having long been defaced, and all trace of the burying-place lost until 1874.

The **S. choir aisle,** which we now enter from the transept, is of the same architectural character as the choir, the first three bays being E.E., and the rest Dec. The tracery of the windows, however, is throughout Late Dec. (curvilinear). All the windows contain fragments of stained glass, of various dates, but of no very especial interest.

Against the wall of the choir, near the W. end of the aisle, is a low coffin-shaped slab of Purbeck, with an incised episcopal effigy. This is the monument of **Bp. Bytton II.** (8) (d. 1274), whose life was one of great sanctity, and whose reputation, after death, as a curer of the toothache, rivalled that of St. Apollonia. His tomb was resorted to from all parts of the diocese. This (with the exception perhaps of two figures of abbots at St. Denys, which may date about 1260) is the most ancient example of an incised slab which has been noticed either in England or on the Continent.

A little further E. is the effigy of **Bp. Beckington** (9) (d. 1464) the great benefactor of Wells. The canopy under which it formerly lay, which the Bishop had constructed for himself, projected into the choir, and was removed during the late restorations to the Chapel of St. Calixtus. It is much to be regretted that the last resting-place of so distinguished a prelate should have been interfered with. The monument consists of two stages. On the upper is the effigy of the Bishop, on the lower an emaciated figure in a winding-sheet, the *memento mori* so much in favour at this period. The whole shows remains of colour. The ironwork enclosing the monument is decorated with small heads, and should be noticed. It was to this chantry that the Mayor and Corporation of Wells used to repair in solemn procession annually, in order to pray for the repose of the Bishop, who had done so much for them and for their city.

Beyond this tomb is the effigy of **Bp. Harewell** (10) (d. 1386), sufficiently identified by the 2 hares at the feet.

In the **Chapel of St. John the Evangelist** (11), forming the short E. transept opening from this

aisle, is the plain altar-tomb of **Dean Gunthorpe** (12) (d. 1475), who built the more ancient portions of the existing deanery. In the centre of the transept is a monument, by Forsyth, of Dean Jenkyns (d. 1854) and his wife. It is quite worthy of the restorer of the choir.

The Dec. piscina, with its canopy, at the E. end of this transept, should be noticed. At the angle between the transept and the retro-choir is a monument with effigy, possibly that of **Bp. Drokensford** (13) (1309–29). There is a good deal of colour on this tomb and several coats-of-arms, that with four swans' heads being the Bishop's.

Against the S. wall of **St. Catherine's Chapel** (J), E. of the transept, are 2 effigies of early bishops, both of E.E. character (as is evident from the foliage and details): **Bp. Burhwold** (14) (c. 1000) and **Bp. Duduc** (15) (1059.) In the **N. choir aisle** are 3 other effigies of very similar character, and to all appearance of the same date. In the crypt of the chapter-house are 2 more. It is not impossible that under Bp. Joceline and his successors, by whom the E. E. portions of the cathedral were built, a series of monuments was erected for the earlier bishops.

At the end of this chapel is a sitting figure by Chantrey of John Phelips, Esq., of Montacute. The glass in the window above it is fragmentary, but very rich in colour.

Near the early bishops is a **tomb,** with a lofty, shrine-like canopy. It is not known to whom it belongs, though it was long ascribed to Bp. Drokensford (16), during whose episcopate, in all probability, the choir and Lady Chapel were completed. It is, however, quite certain that it was not this bishop's tomb. Perhaps it may have been that of John Marcel, who, in 1341, founded a chantry in the adjoining Chapel of St. Catherine. The grace and beauty of the canopy are especially noticeable, as well as the delicate carving of all its details. The E. portion has been recently decorated in colour.

The beauty of the **retro-choir,** or "procession aisle," the arrangement of its piers and clustered columns, and the admirable manner in which it unites the Lady Chapel with the choir should here be remarked. It is throughout Early Dec. The 4 supporting pillars and shafts are placed *within* the line of the choir-piers, thus producing the unusual intricacy and variety of the eastward view from the choir.

The **Lady Chapel** (L), a building of the very best age, and of great beauty, forms a pentagonal apse, in each side of which is a large window filled with Early Dec. (geometrical) tracery. The Lady Chapel is nearly of the same date as the choir, and was certainly completed in 1326. The rich vaulted roof, springing from triple shafts at the angles, and the reredos, of the same character as the tabernacle-work in the choir, should be noticed. An arcade runs below the windows. The Lady Chapel, like the nave and transepts, was restored by Mr. Ferrey. The pavement is of encaustic tiles, and contains the brass of Dean Goodenough (d. 1845).

The stained glass with which

the windows are filled is of the same date as the ancient glass in the choir. Except the E. window, it is a confused mass of fragments, the colouring of which, however, is superb. The E. window was restored by Willement. The figures are genuine; the blue background is true unadulterated Willement. The tracery lights are filled with angels bearing the instruments of the Passion. This chapel has been fitted up for the use of the students of the Theological College.

At the extreme end of the N. choir aisle, in **St. Stephen's Chapel** (M), are two effigies, assigned to **Bp. Leofric** or Leovingus (17) (1001–13), and **Bp. Ethelwyn** (18), c. 1023.

The small **N.E. transept** was the Chapel of St. John the Baptist, and contains a Dec. piscina (N) and the tombs of **Dean Forrest** (19), with effigy (d. 1446), of **Chancellor Milton**, or De Myddelton (d. 1337), and of **Bps. Berkeley** (d. 1581) and **Creyghton** (20) (d. 1672). Some fragments of the original tiles remain, and a sculpture of the Ascension has been removed here from the cloister.

Against the wall of the choir is an effigy, with E.E. foliage and details, of **Bp. Gisa** (21) (d. 1088). It belongs to the same period as those in the opposite aisle. Below it is the fine effigy of **Bp. Ralph of Shrewsbury** (22) (d. 1363). Remark the *infula*, or fillet twisted round the staff of the crosier, the large jewelled ornaments at the back of the gloves, and the remarkably long maniple.

A low door on the N. side of this aisle opens to a vaulted passage leading to the **undercroft** of the **chapter-house**, of much earlier date than the superstructure. The passage is lighted by 3 small windows. A stone lantern in the wall, on the rt. near the door of the crypt itself, should be noticed. This door, which opens inward, is covered with fine old ironwork.

Like the chapter-house itself, the undercroft is octangular; and an octagonal pier surrounded by circular shafts rises in the centre. The vaulting-ribs which spring from these shafts rest again on 8 round pillars, about 6 ft. high, and placed at no great distance from the central pier. A second series of arched vaultings is carried from the pillars to brackets between the narrow windows, 12 in number. Close within the door is a curious piscina, in the hollow of which is sculptured a dog gnawing a bone. The undercroft was the treasury of the church, hence the strong iron-studded doors. Here are preserved several stone coffins and some fragments of carved stone, an ancient cope-chest, and other antiquities.

From the E. aisle of the N. transept a door opens to the fine staircase which ascends to the **chapter-house.** It is lighted by 2 geometrical windows, W. The corbels supporting the first vaulting shafts on either side, representing a monk and a nun trampling on serpents, should be noticed. The staircase is not unworthy of the magnificent chapter-house to which it leads, the finest example of its date in England. It is generally assigned to the episcopate of Wil-

liam de la Marche (1293–1302), and is, at all events, nearly of this date, being throughout Early Dec. (geometrical).

Like the crypt below, the chapter-house is octagonal, and has a central pier with 16 shafts, from which the ribs of the vaulting radiate. The windows, 8 in number, are filled with very fine geometrical tracery, and surrounded by hollow mouldings enriched with the ball-flower. Some fragments of stained glass remain, among which are the arms of Mortimer, and of France and England, quarterly. Below the windows an arcade runs round the walls. At the springs of the arches are sculptured heads full of expression: kings, bishops, monks, ladies, jesters; and at the angles grotesques of various kinds.

The double arches at the entrance show traces of a door on the exterior. Remark the curious boss in the vaulting, composed of 4 bearded faces. The diameter of the chapter-house is 50 ft., its height 41 ft. Its unusual features are its separation from the cloisters, from which the chapter-house generally opens, and its crypt, or lower story, which rendered necessary the staircase by which it is approached.

Beyond the chapter-house the staircase ascends, through a Perp. doorway, to the gallery over the **Chain Gate,** built 1459 by Bp. Beckington, which connects the Vicars' College with the cathedral. Through the gallery the vicars could pass from their own close into the cathedral. The common hall of their college opens from it.

Returning to the cathedral, the visitor may ascend the **central tower,** 182 ft. high, by a staircase opening from the S.E. angle of the S. transept. A magnificent view is commanded from the roof. The position of the cathedral, rising from the centre of the valley, is perhaps better understood from here than from any other point.

A doorway in the same transept leads to the **Chapter Library,** built over the E. walk of the cloister by the executors of *Bp. Bubwith*, c. 1425, and said to have been largely furnished with books by *Bp. Lake* (1616–26). It now contains about 3000 volumes, among which are many that belonged to Bp. Ken, and were left by him to his former cathedral. His own copy of Bp. Andrewes' "Devotions" is here, as well as a large and important collection of pamphlets relating to the public events of his time. Other treasures of the Library are the Aldine edition of Aristotle, with the autograph and manuscript notes of Erasmus; the "Etymologicon" of Isidorus, a manuscript of the 14th century; several charters more than 800 years old; the wooden canopy of the pyx, or receptacle in which the Blessed Sacrament was reserved; and a crosier belonging to the time of Bp. Savaric, with a head of 13th century Limoges work, which represents St. Michael vanquishing the dragon. It is most delicately worked, and studded with small turquoises and other stones. A great number of iron chains, by which the volumes were formerly attached to the desks, are preserved here.

From the S.W. angle of the transept we pass into the **cloisters,** which, as at Chichester and Hereford, have only 3 sides or walks instead of 4; as the canons of Wells were not monks, they did not require a cloister in the ordinary sense. This is merely an ornamental walk round the cemetery. It did not lead to either dormitory, refectory, or chapter-house. It served as a passage to the Bishop's Palace, and the wall of the E. walk is E.E., of the same date as the palace itself. From this walk a chapel opened, now destroyed, traces of which are seen in the interruption of the stone bench and the rich panelling of the arch on the outside. This was the Capella B.M.V. juxta Claustrum often referred to in the chapter documents, and used as a kind of family chapel, by the Byttons. (See p. 41 for account of its destruction.) The rest of the E. walk was built by the executors of Bp. Bubwith, the W. by Bp. Beckington, who also commenced the S. side, which was completed soon after his death by Treasurer Henry. The lavatory in the E. walk should be remarked, as well as the grotesque bosses of the roof in the portion built by Bp. Beckington. Over the W. cloister is the Chapter Grammar-school. The central space is known as the "Palm Churchyard," from the yew-tree in its centre, the branches of which were formerly carried in procession as palms.

The mural tablets and monuments removed from the cathedral have been arranged on the walls of the cloisters. On the W. side should be noticed a tablet to T. Linley and his two daughters, married to R. B. Sheridan and Tickell respectively.

From the S.E. angle of the cloisters the visitor may proceed to the Bishop's Palace, surrounded by a moat fed from St. Andrew's, or the "bottomless well," and defended by walls and bastions capable of sustaining a long siege by a mediæval enemy. Both walls and moat were the work of Bp. Ralph of Shrewsbury (1329-63).

The **Bishop's Palace** was originally built by Bp. Joceline, 1206–42, in the form of a quadrangle, the present house forming the E. side. On the N. were the kitchen and offices, which have been much altered and partly rebuilt; on the S. the chapel, rebuilt by Bp. Burnell, 1275–92; on the W. were a curtain wall and gatehouse, now destroyed. The present **gatehouse**, through which the visitor enters the palace, is plain 14th-century work, with square flanking turrets, a groined entrance, the chains of a drawbridge, and the grooves of a portcullis, built by Bp. Ralph of Shrewsbury, 1337-40. On passing under the vaulted archway the visitor has in front the ruins of the **Great Hall**, and the restored chapel, and the habitable part of the palace to the l. The main building of the palace, the work of Bp. Joceline, remains to a great extent as originally built, though with many minor alterations and adaptations, including the upper story with gabled dormers, added to the W. front by Bp. Bagot, 1840. It consists of a long parallelogram divided lengthwise at about one half of its width by

a solid wall; the narrower portion forming the entrance vestibule below, and a gallery above. The whole of the basement story is vaulted throughout with a good E.E. ribbed vault. This is supported in the wider half by a row of small pillars down the centre, the space of which was probably divided by wooden partitions into store-rooms and cellars. It is now used as a dining-hall. At the N.E. corner a square building projects, which forms the Bishop's study above, with a modern oriel window.

The fireplace in the entrance vestibule is of the time of Henry VII. (Bp. Oliver King); a rich Jacobean staircase gives access to the upper floor, which has always contained the principal apartments. The whole length of the W. front is occupied by the **gallery**, a fine room 84 ft. long, lighted by the original E.E. windows, of two 3-foiled lights, with a quatrefoil over, all contained under a flat 3-foiled escoinson arch supported on shafts with rich capitals. The walls are hung with portraits of the bishops, including Wolsey in his cardinal robes, the martial Mews, the saintly Ken, the intruding Kidder, crushed to death within these walls by the fall of a chimney in the great storm. To the E. of the gallery are the chief rooms: the *Library*, looking S.; the *drawing-room*, with a rich but heavy ceiling; and the *dining-room*, communicating with the Bishop's study, which has an access by a modern newel staircase to the garden. The whole of the windows of these rooms are of the same E.E. type as those of the gallery, but somewhat later; those in the N. and S. gables are remarkably fine. They are original, but restored by Mr. Ferrey.

The *kitchens* and offices occupy the N. wing, overhanging the moat. This wing was enlarged, and oriel windows added, by Bp. Clerk, 1523–40. The bosses of the windows bear his rebus. The corner tower at the N.E. is also Bp. Clerk's work.

The **chapel** (52 ft. by 26 ft. within) occupies the site of the S. wing of Joceline's building, which probably included a chapel on the upper floor; and the practised eye will see traces of the earlier prelate's work in the staircase turrets at the angles, and in the wall of the hall adjacent to the chapel. The existing chapel was built by Bp. Burnell, 1274–92, and is a beautiful example of Dec. work. It is of 3 bays, with a 3-light window in each, a rich 6-light window to the E., and a plainer one of 5 lights to the W. of later date. The whole is covered by a very rich groined vault. There are good sedilia and a piscina. The W. door is E.E. There is a low side window in the S. side wall towards the W. end. This chapel, which had been allowed to fall into decay, was restored by Bps. Law and Bagot, and is now appropriately fitted up.

The **Great Hall** (115 ft. by 59½ ft.) joins the chapel at the S.W. angle, and is also the work of Bp. Burnell, but somewhat later. It was a structure of unusual size and magnificence, of 5 bays in length, and divided by arcades into a centre and side aisle. The 2-light windows are admirable examples of Early Dec.

It was dismantled by Sir John Gates, who had purchased the palace for the sake of the materials, 1552, after the execution of the Duke of Somerset, to whom Bp. Barlow had alienated it in 1550, and only the N. and W. walls and the angular turrets, of which that to the N.E. may be ascended for the view, remain. It is some consolation to the antiquary to know that Gates himself was beheaded in 1553 for complicity in Lady Jane Grey's attempt on the throne. The ruin was completed by the Puritan Dr. Cornelius Burgess, to whom the palace, deanery, and chapter-house, together with other Church property in Wells, had been sold for a nominal price by the Parliament. Burgess had been appointed to "preach God's word in the late cathedral church of St. Andrew's, Wells." His sermons were not palatable to the citizens, who showed their distaste for them by walking up and down the cloister all sermon time. At the Restoration he had to give up his Church spoils, and he died in gaol, where he had been immured by the Corporation. This hall, Nov. 14th, 1539, was the scene of the mock trial of Whiting, the last abbot of Glastonbury (see *ante*). At the W. end of the hall were the offices, with the withdrawing room, or solar, above, the windows of which are very elegant and highly finished. From the S.W. corner of this apartment access is afforded to a garderobe closet in the turret at that angle.

The S. side of the palace enclosure forms a lovely garden, rich with flowers of bright and varied hues, in pleasing contrast with the grey ruins of the hall and the ancient walls of the house. The whole scene in summer is one of singular loveliness. The embattled wall affords a terrace walk above the garden, and commands exquisite views of the cathedral and the hills surrounding the city. The **Well House,** built by Bp. Beckington in the 15th century to supply the city with water, still stands in the Bishop's gardens, a square buttressed building, with mullioned windows.

A short distance to the S.W. stands the **Bishop's Barn,** a fine and perfect specimen of the early part of the 15th century, probably built by Bp. Bubwith. It is 110 feet by 25½ feet, and possesses a remarkably large number of buttresses.

On leaving the palace, we return to the Cathedral Green, and cross it to the N. side to the ***Deanery**, with its octagonal turrets, buttresses, and embattled parapet, the work chiefly of Dean Gunthorpe, 1472-98. He was chaplain to Edward IV., Lord Keeper of the Privy Seal, and holder of several other high offices, of the profits of which we have a substantial memorial in the present noble building.

"Though a good deal spoilt by sash windows and other alterations, it is still nearly a perfect specimen of a nobleman and gentleman's house of the 15th century. It has its own gatehouse and wall of enclosure, and originally had a small court in the centre, now covered in. The principal apartments are on the first floor, on the N. or garden front. This front is very rich and picturesque, and bears

the badges of Dean Gunthorpe (a gun) and of Edward IV. (the rose upon a sun) on the bay windows and oriels. The chief rooms are the hall, with two beautiful bay windows with fan-vaults, the domestic chapel at the upper end of the hall, and the guest-chambers over. The hall is a good example of the transition from the mediæval hall to the modern dining-room. At the lower end is a stone arch of wide span, carrying a small chamber curiously squeezed in, probably for the musicians. Under the arch is the lavatory for washing the hands before dinner."—*J. H. P.* Henry VII., when on his march into the W. against Perkin Warbeck, was entertained at the deanery, Sept. 30, 1497, the palace having been for several years unoccupied.

Beyond the deanery to the E. is the **Archdeaconry**, a house of Edward I.'s time (c. 1280), but much modernized, originally of at least equal importance with the deanery. The hall, which occupied the whole height of the building, retains a very fine open timber roof of the early part of the 15th century, probably the work of Bp. Bubwith. There is a curious circular window in the E. gable. Polydore Vergil, the confidant and early tool of Wolsey, is said to have written his history here. In 1550 he obtained royal licence to reside abroad, after having held the archdeaconry more than 40 years; and at that time he alienated the house, which has ever since continued severed from the church. The hall was subsequently used as an assembly room and a place for electioneering gatherings, and in local phraseology was known as "The Salt Box." It is now the property of the Wells Theological College, and has been fitted up as the College Library and Lecture Room. The old timber roof of the 15th century in the Library is in good preservation.

The **Prebendal House**, now occupied by the Principal of the Theological College, at the N.E. corner of the cathedral, is a small residence of the 15th century (c. 1480); one wing of the house was taken down about 1840; the rest is tolerably perfect, with the roof and upper part of the hall windows remaining among modern alterations. The porch and room over it are unaltered, and are very picturesque.

To the N.E. of the cathedral, just beyond the Chain Gate, which was intended to afford access for the vicars to the church under cover, stands the very remarkable and picturesque ***Vicars' Close.** It is a long narrow court, with a chapel and library over at the N. end, and the entrance gate with the common hall above at the S. extremity, and 21 dwellings ranged along the 2 sides. The vicars choral were deputies of the canons, and received quotidians, changed to money payments by Bp. Joceline at the beginning of the 13th century. They had houses assigned to them, and were endowed with lands, and were formed into the College of Vicars Choral in the episcopate of Bp. Ralph of Shrewsbury, by whom the more ancient portions of the close chapel were erected, c. A.D. 1348. The character of the doorways and the few original

windows that remain show that the existing houses, though much modernized, are substantially his work, the hall, with its W. and N. windows. The E. end of the hall over the gateway, with its bay windows, was added by Richard Pomeroy (temp. Henry VIII.), for whom an inscription on the mantelpiece asks the prayers of the faithful.

The houses of Bp. Ralph were all on one plan, and consisted of 2 rooms, one over the other, with a staircase and closet at the back. The vicars were of course unmarried, and dined together in the common hall. The close was in fact a college, in which each member had a separate small house, instead of rooms on a common staircase, on the same arrangement as a Carthusian priory. The houses were extensively repaired and altered by Swan, Sugar, and Talbot, Bp. Beckington's executors, whose arms, with those of the Bishop, appear on the very picturesque tall chimney shafts which break the uniformity of the outline of the front. One of these dwellings has been restored to its original state by Mr. J. H. Parker, C.B., to whom we also owe the complete repair and appropriate decoration of the undercroft of the hall, and of a house attached to the S.W. end of the hall, which had for a long time been used as a brewhouse, and had fallen into a state of miserable dilapidation. The whole was decorated and furnished in the style of the period from designs by Mr. W. Burges in 1865, but the paintings have suffered from damp. An exquisite oriel projects from the W. gable of this house. The *hall* contains a reading pulpit over the fireplace, and a curious picture of Bp. Ralph granting the vicars' petition. The *kitchen* was also added by Pomeroy. The house attached to the W. end of the *chapel* was probably a house assigned to one of the two principals of the College of Vicars Choral. The spandrils of the chapel windows contain fragments of 13th century sculpture, the work of Bp. Joceline, probably brought from the cathedral during the reconstruction of the E. end. The chapel has been decorated internally in sgraffito and colour by Mr. Heywood Sumner. The *Library* over the chapel was probably added by Bp. Beckington's executors.

A house in the North Liberty has a good porch and panelled battlement of the 15th century.

Another house in the *Liberty* outside the close, and opposite the house now occupied by the Principal of the Theological College, in the Bishop's special gift for non-resident canons, was called "the Bishop's ribs." The *Canons' Barn* is chiefly of modern date, but some very ancient work exists within, which may be either Norman or very early in the E.E. style.

Two of the 3 *gates* of entrance to the Cathedral Green were certainly the work of Bp. Beckington, and bear his punning rebus, a flaming *beacon* and a *tun*. That at the N.W. corner, near the deanery, of the 15th century, known as **Browne's Gate**, or the **Dean's Eye**, is the poorest, but not without interest. On the opposite, or S. side, near the organist's house, is the

Bishop's Eye, commonly called "**Penniless Porch,**" probably from the distribution of the church alms being made there. On the W. side are the arms of Bp. Beckington, below those of Henry VI., with the Bishop's rebus on each side. The **Chain Gate** and **Bridge** at the N.E. corner of the green connecting the cathedral with the vicar's close is a very beautiful building, erected by Bp. Beckington, c. 1460. There is a fourth gateway, the stateliest of the whole, the work of the same munificent prelate, leading from the market-place to the palace.

The **market-place** was also designed by Bp. Beckington, c. 1443. The houses on the N. side, opposite the Town Hall, are distinctly mediæval, though much modernized. A buttress may be seen peeping out every here and there among later alterations.

In the centre of the market-place is a modern *conduit* of nondescript style, supplied by St. Andrew's well.

The ugly **Town Hall,** out of harmony with all its surroundings, was built in 1779, in place of one that stood on pillars in the middle of the square, the work of Bp. Knight (1541–54) and Dean Woolman. The summer assizes for the county are held here. The Council Chamber contains portraits of James I. and Charles II., attributed to Sir Peter Lely, Bps. Mews, "the fighting bishop," Creyghton, Hooper, and Law, together with some MSS. of historic interest, framed and hung on the walls, including a letter of Charles I. asking for a loan of £500, an original writ for ship-money, etc.

The *Market-house*, to the E. of the Town Hall, was built in 1836, in which a large Saturday cattle and cheese market is held once a month.

The **Crown Inn,** on the S. side of the market-place, is a curious framed timber house, with windows supported on brackets. The most curious part overlooks the yard. William Penn once preached from a window of this inn.

St. Cuthbert's Church is, after the cathedral and its adjuncts, the object of the greatest attraction in Wells. The *tower*, containing 6 very fine bells, is one of the very finest of the far-famed Somersetshire steeples, of the same type as that at Wrington (to which alone it yields the palm), without horizontal divisions, the belfry stage formed by two enormous and nobly proportioned windows, with equal pinnacled turrets at the angles. It seems to have been originally an E.E. cross church (c. 1240), with a central tower, which is recorded to have fallen c. 1560. The whole church was transformed in Perp. times after the erection of the W. tower, when the E.E. pillars were heightened, and the whole character changed. The church, as it now stands, consists of W. tower, nave, and aisles, with chantry chapels on both sides, transeptal chapels, N. and S. porches, each with a parvise over, a chancel with aisles, and an original sacristy to the N. The S. transeptal chapel, which has a Dec. E. window, was the site

of a chantry founded by Thomas Tanner, of Wells, in 1402. Against the E. wall was an altar, now defaced, the reredos representing the *radix Jesse*, erected in 1470. At the Reformation the statues were torn down or built up in the niches, and the whole hidden under a coat of plaster, but were brought to light again in 1848. The reredos of the N. or St. Mary's Chapel was discovered at the same time; the design was magnificent, the groining of the niches of peculiar richness, and the whole work very delicate and beautiful. The whole had been coloured and gilded. A fresco of our blessed Lord in the act of benediction was also discovered. The church has been well restored, a carved reredos, with a bas-relief of the Last Supper, by Forsyth, erected at the cost of the local Freemasons. A Norman pillar piscina formerly built up in one of the transept walls deserves notice. The church possesses a fine wooden roof. The stone steps to a former pulpit remain, but the present pulpit is of wood and Jacobean in period.

St. Thomas' Church (Teulon, arch.) was built 1856–7 by Mrs. Jenkyns, the widow of Dean Jenkyns, in memory of her husband. It is a very pleasing building, with a tower and spire and apsidal chancel, in the Dec. style. The stained-glass windows of the chancel were given by the Fellows of Balliol College, of which Dr. Jenkyns had been master.

Not far from St. Cuthbert's Church is **Bp. Bubwith's Almshouse**, founded after the Bishop's death, 1424. The original plan was that usual in mediæval times —a large hall, with cells on each side for the almsmen, open to the timber roof, and a chapel at the E. end, open to the hall, so that the inmates could join in the daily service in their cells. This suffered from ill-judged alterations in 1850, but the original design may be traced. At the W. end is the old **Guildhall**, also erected by the executors of Bp. Bubwith. A large addition to the almshouses was made by a bequest from Bp. Still (d. 1607); to this date some very quaint cinque-cento sedilia on the S. front must be assigned.]

Proceeding on our route from Glastonbury to Highbridge, the line is nearly level, laid mainly on great peat bogs, now covered with rich pasture, and abounding in treasures for the botanist. The traveller will remark the hollow humming of the train as it rolls over the deep beds of elastic peat, and will notice the piles of rich brown blocks, cut and stacked for fuel.

The first stat. after leaving Glastonbury is

51 m. **Ashcott** Stat. The village is 2 m. S.W., on the lower slopes of Polden Hill. $1\frac{1}{4}$ m. N. of the stat. is **Meare**, 3 m. N.W. of Glastonbury, formerly islanded in a large lake, or *mere*, whence the name, and now surrounded by marshes, where was a residence of the Abbot of Glastonbury. The **Manor House**, now used as a farmhouse, was built by Adam of Sodbury in the middle of the

14th century. The ancient hall and kitchen are well preserved. "Two sides of a quadrangle remain. The E. wing has been destroyed; the W., containing the hall, is nearly perfect. The hall, 60 ft. by 22 ft., is on the first floor, with rooms below. It has good Dec. windows and a fireplace, a good example of its period. There is a good entrance porch of 2 stories, with the figure of an abbot on the point of the gable. The kitchen, in which there is a good plain fireplace, is entered directly from the porch."—*J. H. Parker.* To this place the abbots came by water; and a field, called *Pool-reed*, marks the spot where their boats were moored. But 50 years since the village could be approached only by a horse-path. 200 yds. E. of the Manor House is a most interesting architectural curiosity—a cottage of the time of Edward III., traditionally known as the **Fish-house,** and probably the residence of the abbey fisherman. It had a roof of open timber-work, and was kept in repair by its proprietor, Sir Charles Taylor, but has unfortunately become a ruin through the act of an incendiary. The abbey fishponds (N. of Meare, and adjoining the Brue) once covered over 500 acres of water. The *Ch.* is a fine structure. The chancel is of the time of Edward III., with window tracery of very unusual design. The tower is of the same date. The nave was rebuilt by Abbot Selwood, in the 16th century, in rather poor Perp., but has remarkably good ironwork. The stone pulpit also is richly sculptured, and to the wall by the side of it is still affixed the iron stand for the hour-glass. The pleasing village cross of the 15th century, removed from its original site, stands near the schools. Meare was the living of the *Rev. W. Phelps*, author of a "History of Somersetshire," which he left unfinished at his death.

Close to Meare is an exceedingly interesting lake-village of the Celtic period, which is being carefully examined under the supervision of Mr. Arthur Bulleid, of Glastonbury. The discoveries already made throw much light on the manner of life at that period. "This village was constructed on the edge of a mere now converted into a peat moor, but when in occupation would have been protected from attack by the sheet of water which lay between it and Glastonbury, which is one mile distant. It consisted of a cluster of round huts, which were erected upon artificial platforms of clay and timber, and surrounded by a stockade. Each hut was from 12 to 14 ft. in diameter, and was constructed of what is known as wattle-and-daub, that is to say, a kind of wickerwork smeared over with clay; and each had a wooden door about 3 ft. high. In the centre of each floor was a stone hearth for a fire, and outside each door a few slabs of lias formed a rough platform in front of the wooden threshold. The stockade round the village was composed of a palisading of piles from 3 to 9 inches in diameter, and from 9 to 11 ft. high, which were kept together by a kind of rough hurdle-work. Canoes of oak have been discovered by

which the inhabitants gained access to the mainland. Various implements of iron, both civil and military, have been found, and the presence of some of these in an unfinished condition, as well as of lumps of scoria, shows that the forges existed in the village itself. Glass slag has also been found, which seems to show that the inhabitants manufactured the beads of that material met with amongst their remains. They worked in bronze, and a fine bowl, fibulæ, pins, and other articles testify to their skill in this direction. They smelted lead ore, doubtless obtained from the neighbouring Mendips, and made from it spindle-whorls and weights for their fishing-nets. They made pottery partly by the aid of the wheel, and partly in a ruder manner by hand, and decorated it with designs of various kinds. They spun flax, and used the loom for weaving. Perhaps that which excites the greatest admiration is the remarkable skill which they showed in carpentry—beams well squared and holed, wheels, ladders, doors, buckets, dishes, and bowls, many of them adorned with incised patterns of a flamboyant character, remaining as evidences of their capabilities in this direction. Besides ornamenting their persons with beads, rings, and pins, they seem to have painted themselves with red ochre and charcoal mixed with grease. Some of the human remains which have been found outside the stockade are cut and broken, and some of the skulls, including one of a woman, have been cut off the body and stuck upon the head of a spear, to be placed probably on the stockade just as the heads of criminals were, up to a recent date, stuck upon the gates of cities or over bridges. The inhabitants of the village cultivated wheat on the mainland adjacent, and had flocks and herds. They were also provided with large dogs. They killed for their food the red-deer and the roe, the beaver and the otter, as well as wild geese, swans, ducks, and pelicans."—*Windle*, "Life in Early Britain."

Many of the objects mentioned above as having been discovered in the excavation of this village are arranged in the Museum at Glastonbury.

52¾ m. **Shapwick** Stat., 2 m. N. of the village, where was a grange and court-house of Glastonbury. The *Ch.*, restored in 1861 by Sir G. G. Scott, retains its central tower, an uncommon thing in Somerset. It was rebuilt on its present site by the Abbey of Glastonbury shortly after its impropriation, between 1261 and 1274, in the abbacy of John of Taunton. Judge Rolle, deposed from his office by Cromwell, built a mansion here in 1630 with a fine gabled front, *Shapwick House* (G. T. Warry, Esq., J.P.). *Down House* (Hon. H. B. T. Strangways, J.P.).

[1 m. N. in the marsh is **Honeygore,** where an ancient road formed of trunks of trees laid side by side 6 ft. below the surface has been discovered. It appears to lead from Meare to Burtle, 2 m. across the turf, and is called the **Abbot's Road,** but it is probably of a much earlier date than this name would indicate.

4 m. N. is **Wedmore,** which was the site of Alfred's royal palace, where, after the battle of Ethandun, the famous "Peace of Wedmore" was settled, and the christening festival of Guthrum kept after his baptism at Aller.

The Treaty of Wedmore was of great importance, since it assigned a definite district to the Danes, and established a *modus vivendi* between them and the English. The boundaries agreed upon were "up on the Thames and then up on the Lea, and along the Lea to its source, then right to Bedford, then up on the Ouse unto Watling Street." Mr. Freeman says: "Speaking roughly, Alfred recovered that part of Mercia which had been originally West Saxon, and which had been conquered by the Angles in the 7th and 8th centuries. . . . The Danes got much the largest part of England. Still Alfred contrived to keep London."

The site of Alfred's palace is placed by tradition in the hamlet of **Mudgeley,** about $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. from Wedmore Church, in a field on the S. slope of the hill. Recent excavations have brought to light massive walls, including those of a long building, 95 ft. by 39 ft., presumably the hall, which have been identified with the royal residence. It has a large and striking *Ch.* (restored by Ferrey 1881), singular in its appearance, especially in the S. view, from its irregularity. The tall and somewhat bare tower rises from a confused mass of buildings. A curious group of additional buildings is attached to the S. aisle, and some singular chapels and sacristies group round the chancel. It was originally a cruciform structure of the 13th century, which received large additions and alterations in the 15th. It has a central tower, aisles to both chancel and nave, a large S. porch, with parvise over, and chapel between it and the S. transept. The larger portion of the church is Perp., and almost wholly so externally; the S. side is, as usual, more ornate than the N. The arches under the tower are Late Trans., as also the S. doorway; the tower arches are very plain, but there is fine stone groining of late character in the tower. The arcades of the nave have rather depressed arches, and there is no clerestory. The N. transept and the N. chapel of the chancel have good panelled ceilings. The window at the E. of the S. aisle is Early Dec.; under its sill is a vestry like those at Ilminster, Crewkerne, etc. The ascent to the altar is by unusually steep steps; on the S. are a sedile and piscina, and there is a squint from the S. transept to the S. aisle of the chancel. There is a magnificent Jacobean pulpit and reading-desk. It contains mural brasses to Captain Thomas Hodges, slain at the siege of Antwerp, 1583, with a curious epitaph deserving perusal, and Captain George Hodges, c. 1630 (very curious as showing the military costume of the time), and several curious memorials to the Boulting and other families.

There are two ancient crosses —one plain and modernized in the churchyard, removed to its present site about fifty years since, the other in the village, of late

14th-century work, and one of the most perfect examples existing. Its canopied head contains sculptures of the Holy Rood, the Virgin and Child, an ecclesiastic and a knight. On this cross Judge Jeffreys, in the Bloody Assize, is said to have hung a doctor, who had dressed the wounds of one of Monmouth's army. The house in front of which it now stands is that in which Jeffreys is said to have lodged.

3 m. W. of Wedmore, 4 m. from Highbridge Stat., is *Mark*, where the *Ch.* has a very fine oak roof.]

55 m. **Edington** Stat., 2¼ m. N. of the village, which lies on the N. slope of the Poldens. Edington Moor is much frequented by botanists for its marsh flora. Edington is considered by Bp. Clifford to be the Æthandune of Asser, the scene of Alfred's victory over the Danes, usually placed at Edington in Wiltshire. In this vicinity, where the rly. reaches the alluvium, heaps of Romano-British pottery have been found, proving the existence of manufactories of coarse ware during the Roman occupation. *Edington House* (Major R. F. Westmacott).

¾ m. W. is the little village of **Chilton**. Above it, on the crest of Polden Hill, stands Chilton Priory, on the site of a cell of Glastonbury Abbey, a modern erection built for a museum by the late Mr. Stradling, but its contents have been dispersed by auction, the most interesting having passed to the Taunton Museum. The little building is, however, still used for its original purpose. The views rt. and l. are exceedingly beautiful. The steep sides of the ridge slant directly from the road, exposing on the rt. the flats of Sedgemoor and the heights of the Quantock and Blackdown Hills, on the l. the entire range of the Mendips, Brent Knoll, and the sea. At

58½ m. is *Bason Bridge* Stat., and at 60¼ m. the line reaches

Highbridge Stat., on the Great Western Rly. (Rte. 2).

ROUTE 2.

BATH TO WELLINGTON BY BRISTOL [CLIFTON, KINGSWESTON, LEIGH COURT, PORTISHEAD], YATTON, CLEVEDON [BROCKLEY COMBE], BANWELL [WESTON-SUPER-MARE], HIGHBRIDGE [BURNHAM], BRIDGWATER [SEDGEMOOR, ISLE OF ATHELNEY], DURSTON, AND TAUNTON [QUANTOCK HILLS].

RAIL.	PLACES.
	London.
	Bath.
108¼ m.	Twerton.
110 m.	Newton St. Loe.
111¼ m.	Saltford.
113¾ m.	Keynsham.
118½ m.	Bristol.
	Bristol.
3½ m.	Clifton Bridge.
11½ m.	Portishead.
	Bristol.
124½ m.	Flax Bourton.
126¼ m.	Nailsea.
130¼ m.	Yatton.
	Yatton.
4½ m.	Clevedon.
	Yatton
136¾ m.	Worle.
	Worle.
2 m.	Weston-super-Mare.
	Worle.
145¼ m.	Highbridge.
	Highbridge.
1½ m.	Burnham.
	Highbridge.
151¼ m.	Bridgwater.
157¼ m.	Durston.
163 m.	Taunton.
165¼ m.	Norton Fitzwarren.
170 m.	Wellington.

The Great Western enters Somersetshire 1½ m. from the Box Tunnel through a deep valley, in which the clays of the inferior oolite and lias are in places exposed. On emerging from the tunnel the great oolite hills rise steeply to about 700 ft., and on the l., between *Monkton Farleigh Down* and *Hampton Down*, the Avon flows from the beautiful *Vale of Claverton*. The river is crossed by the railway. As the train leaves the cutting a glimpse is obtained of

l. *Bathford* and its church, and immediately afterwards of the ivied tower of

l. **Bathampton** Church, close to the line. This building is chiefly of Perp. date, with a little E.E. work left in the chancel, and has a fine W. door. It has also within the porch effigies of a knight and his lady, temp. Edward III., and in a niche on the exterior wall of the E. side an effigy of a bishop of the 11th century. These effigies were removed from the interior of the church when it was restored by Ralph Allen, of Prior Park, whose occasional residence was the *Manor House* (Charles Price-Davies, Esq., J.P.). The church also contains a monument to Sir Roderick Murchison, the distinguished geologist. In the churchyard is the tomb of the Vicomte du Barré, killed by Count Rice in a duel on Claverton Down, 1778. The rectory and other houses show traces of antiquity. There is also an ancient tithe-barn much altered.

Rt. *Batheaston* and its Perp. church.

The line enters Bath by a cut-

ting through the *Sydney Gardens*, and, sweeping round in a curve on a viaduct 40 ft. above the level of the river, commands on the rt. an excellent view of the abbey church and city, and on the l. of the suburb of *Widcombe* and the height of *Beechen Cliff*.

✲ *BATH.

[*Railways.*—Bath is a chief station on the Great Western Railway, by which it communicates in one direction with London and the E., and in the other with Bristol and the West of England. The station of the Midland Railway, by which it communicates with Gloucester, Worcester, Birmingham, and the N., is on the opposite side of the river, about ½ m. distant. This is also the station for the Somerset and Dorset line by Shepton Mallet and Evercreech to Blandford, Poole, and Bournemouth. By the Wilts and Somerset line it has communication, by Bradford, Trowbridge, and Westbury, with Salisbury and Southampton, as well as with Yeovil, Dorchester, and Weymouth.

Bath (Pop. in 1891 of parliamentary borough 54,551, "the queen of all the spas in the world. There are certainly very few that can compare with it for beauty of situation, and none for magnificence of buildings"—*Waagen*) is situated in the bottom and on the steep sides of the valley of the Avon, which, sweeping round the ancient town, traverses the heart of the city in a winding course from E. to W. The abbey and the busiest streets lie below; and above, on the northern slope, rise terraces and crescents, tier upon tier, to a height of nearly 800 ft. the Royal Crescent about half-way up the hill, then Lansdown Crescent, and numerous villas and mansions towering above them. The whole city is built of the white oolite called *Bath stone*, the excellence of which enhances the impression of grandeur and solidity, and in a style of architecture worthy of the material. Some of the streets and groups of houses are indeed models of excellence, and their effect is enhanced by the beauty of the site, and the absence of the smoke and dirt attendant upon trade and manufacture. Walter Savage Landor, who made Bath his home for many years, and who was familiar with the finest cities of Italy, gave the palm to Bath for beauty and purity of architecture over all of them. Bath bears the stamp of opulence in its aspect; its "season" once more begins to command the *élite* of fashion, it enjoys its share of gaiety, and as a residence is a favourite retirement from more busy scenes. It combines many of the advantages of the metropolis with those of a watering-place; and education, amusement, and society may be obtained here at a moderate expense.

Bath has two genuine myths, an older and a younger. The latter, that of Bladud and the swine, is the most commonly known; but the earlier tale, related by Geoffrey of Monmouth, deserves the precedence. According to this, Bladud, the son of the British king Lud Hudibras, was skilled in the black art, and created "the Bath" by his magic art, placing a cunning stone in the spring that made the water

hot and healed the sick people. Unfortunately he attempted to fly with wings of his own devising, and though he managed his aerial voyage from Bath to London with success, when above that city the strings snapped, and he fell on the roof of the temple of Apollo, and was dashed to pieces. He reigned 20 years, and was succeeded by his son, our old friend "King Lear."

According to the later and more popular legend, Bladud was a leper, and for that reason had been expelled his father's palace, wandered disconsolately to Keynsham, and was there reduced to the ignoble condition of a swineherd. His pigs, runs the story, were infected by him with the same disease, but, wandering in this valley, they rolled in the warm mud where the mineral waters stagnated, and were healed. Bladud, perceiving this cure, tried the same remedy with equal success, and when, after completing his education at the university of Athens, he became king, he built a city on the spot. So, according to tradition, Bath was founded, B.C. 863, and the statue of King Bladud, erected in the Pump Room about the year 1700, bore an inscription to that effect. The Romans, however, were more probably the first to discover the virtues of these waters, and to use them for medicinal purposes, about A.D. 44.

Bath may be certainly identified with the Ὕδατα θερμὰ of Ptolemy, placed by him among the Belgæ, but more accurately lying just outside the Belgic border. By the Romans it was denominated *Aquæ* (*Sulis*), and was one of the most important of their stations, where they built a temple to the goddess Minerva, here identified with the local deity *Sul* (who, it is conjectured, gives its name to the adjacent hill of *Solsbury*, and was worshipped under the appellation of *Sul-Minerva*), and where there existed a college of armourers for the manufacture of weapons for the legions. The principal buildings stood round the abbey churchyard. The temple, which had a portico of Corinthian columns, of which and of the pediment considerable fragments are to be seen at the Pump Room, stood near the site of the Pump Room. The fragments were disinterred in 1790. A platform on which another temple stood was discovered in excavations at the White Hart in 1867. The Roman baths were discovered in 1755, when the D. of Kingston pulled down the Priory, to form the Kingston Baths. The foundation lay 20 ft. below the surface. The baths were of a magnificent description, decorated with columns and tessellated floors, and furnished with sudatories and other appliances. When discovered, in 1755, the flues were found charged with soot, and the bricks marked with fire. The large central bath was 90 ft. by 60 ft., flanked by oblong rooms, with semicircular recesses, 65 ft. by 34 ft. The walls, when disinterred, were 6 or 7 ft. high, lined with red cement. In 1881, excavations set on foot by Major Davis, F.S.A., beneath the King's Bath, resulted in the discovery of a Roman bath of immense size at a considerable depth below the present surface of the ground. One of the most remarkable portions was an octagonal well or tank 50 ft. by 40 ft. lined with lead. The bath proper contained a hall 120 ft. long by 69 ft. wide, covered by an arched roof, fragments of which were found, with pilasters and columns *in situ*.

Among other Roman remains discovered here have been a colossal female head with the hair elaborately dressed, altars to Sul-

Minerva and a monument to her priest, inscriptions, carved fragments, together with millstones, flue-tiles, Samian ware, and a beautiful bronze head, identified by Warner with Apollo, by others with Minerva, dug up in Stall Street in 1727, also a lovely bronze portrait medallion of Pompeia, masks, and valuable Roman intaglios.

In the stormy period which followed the departure of this people (c. 410) the beautiful buildings and monuments which they had raised around the "Waters of the Sun" were pulled down or allowed to perish by the early Saxon invaders, who were not a city-dwelling folk, and an era of rude barbarism followed. This is the period that gave to the world the famous story of Arthur and the Round Table. The seat of Arthur's famous victory over the Saxons at *Mons Badonicus* (A.D. 520) has been identified with Bath, but, according to Dr. Guest, erroneously, the place of the battle being far more probably Badbury, in Dorsetshire. The British dominion in these parts was broken up in 577 by the Saxon chiefs Cuthwine and Ceawlin, who conquered the Britons at Deorham (now Dyrham, 7 m. N.E. of Bath, the seat of the Blathwayt family), and took Gloucester, Cirencester, and Bath, or, as it was then called, Akemannesceaster. This name has been derived from *aches* and pains, for which people went for cure to Bath; but it is more probably a British compound, embodying the Roman element *aquæ* and the syllable *man*, the British word for *place*, and signifies the fortified camp at the *place* known by the name of *Aquæ*.

The great Roman road from London which passed through Oxfordshire, and by Marlborough to Bath was also known as the *Akeman Street*. Two other Roman roads converged at Bath: the *Via Julia*, from S. Wales by the Aust Passage to Cunetio; and the *Fosseway*, from Lincoln by Ilchester to Axminster.

After its capture by the Saxons, Bath became a chief city of the district of Hwiccia, and gradually losing its original appellation, became known as *Bathan-ceaster*, the city of the Bath, or *æt Bathum*, or more fully *æt hatum Bathum*, the city at the Bath, or Hot Baths.

A volume of Saxon poetry deposited at Exeter about 1050 by Leofric, Bp. of Crediton, and afterwards of Exeter, contains an account of Bath, part of which has been thus literally translated:—

"There stood courts of stone!
The stream hotly rushed
with eddy wide
(walls all enclosed),
with bosom bright
(There the baths were!),
hot by nature!
That was a boon indeed!"

In 676 a monastery for nuns was founded at Bath by Osric, King of Hwiccia, the patronage of which was acquired in 781 by Offa, King of Mercia, by which time the sex of the inhabitants had been changed, and it continued to the dissolution a monastery for monks only. This foundation was dedicated to St. Peter.

In excavating the foundations of this church recently, Major Davis has discovered a remarkable leaden plate, which bears the figure of a cross with inscriptions, one of which relates that it was to the memory of Eadgyfu, wife of King Edmund, a sister of the community of nuns. It dates from either 972 or 977, and has also other inscriptions, one of which has thus been translated: "To Christ do I, though stained with sin, suppliantly pray, *miserere mei*."

The Saxon period may be considered the making of Bath as a city. From Offa's time it was a royal demesne, and in later times was held by the Confessor's wife Edith. A mint was established here, and coins were struck by most of the Anglo-Saxon and Danish monarchs after Athelstan. At Pentecost, 973, a royal pageant of unprecedented magnificence took place in Bath on the occasion of the coronation of Edgar in the 16th year of his reign by the Archbps. Dunstan and Oswald, at which, according to the Anglo-Saxon rhyme, "there was a heap of priests, of monks a mighty throng of wise men, assembled." Leland tells us that, in grateful memory of Edgar's munificence on this occasion, "they pray in all the ceremonies for his soule, and a king is elected every yere in the joyful remembrance of King Edgar and the privileges given to the toune by him. This king is fested, and his adherents. by the richest man of the toune." When Sweyn, Canute's father, overran England in 1015 he made Bath his headquarters, where he received the submission of the western thanes.

The subsequent history of Bath is uneventful. Edith, Edward the Confessor's queen, held it at the Conquest, and in Domesday it appears as a royal manor. In the reign of William Rufus, 1087, it was burnt by Bp. Geoffrey of Coutances and Robert de Mowbray in the attempt to place Duke Robert on the throne, but was restored by John de Villula, Bishop of Wells, who in 1090 bought the city of the King, and transferred to it his episcopal seat, becoming the first bishop of Bath and Wells. Henry I. visited Bath in 1107. The prosperity which the transfer of the see caused to the city received a rude shock in the disturbed reign of Stephen, when the kingdom was torn asunder by the struggle for the crown. During this contest Bath was at one time held by the party of Matilda, at another by that of Stephen. Geoffrey de Talebot, one of the chiefs of Matilda's party, was found disguised in Bath, and was thrown into prison. In retaliation, a party of Matilda's adherents left Bristol, and, reaching Bath at midnight, seized Bp. Robert and carried him off, and immured him in the castle until an exchange was effected.

The mediæval walls (it is extremely improbable that Bath was a walled city in Roman times) were nearly on a line with the streets called the *Lower Borough Walls*, *Westgate Buildings*, *Sawclose*, and *Upper Borough Walls*. and their foundations have from time to time been laid open.

The lordship of the city was parted with by Bp. Savaric (d. 1205) to Richard Cœur de Lion in return for the rich abbey of Glastonbury. The city was bestowed by Edward I. as dower on his queen, Eleanor, a grant which was rescinded in 1274 in favour of Bp. Burnell. In 1297 we have the first record of members of Parliament at Bath. In 1341 the borough obtained from Edward III. a confirmation of former charters, with new liberties. At the same time a bridge was thrown over the Avon to Lyncombe, which was a great accommodation to the traders of Bath, who had been previously accustomed to wade over with their goods to the annual fair at Lyncombe, granted to the monks of St. Peter's in 1304.

In the Great Rebellion Bath was of little consequence to either party, for, being surrounded by hills, it was untenable against artillery; but on the adjoining height one of the great battles of the time was fought —that of Lansdown, July 13th, 1643, in which the gallant Sir

Bevil Grenville ended his career. July 29th, 1645, it was selected by Sir W. Waller as his headquarters. The inhabitants closed their gates against Monmouth, June 26th, 1685, obliging him to commence that retrograde movement which terminated fatally at Sedgemoor. Some of the inhabitants, however, fought under Monmouth's standard, and six condemned by Jeffreys were executed at Bath, with all the savage accessories of the sentence fully carried out.

Bath has had its full share of royal patronage. In 1574 Queen Elizabeth, on her western progress, visited Bath with much state, probably occupying the royal apartments at the West Gate, rebuilt 1572. She spent Sunday, August 22nd, here, the "Queresteres" being brought over from Wells at the cost of 10s. for the occasion. The supposed visit of the Queen in 1591 is an historical fiction. Anne of Denmark, James I.'s queen, visited Bath in 1616 for the benefit of the waters, as did Henrietta Maria in 1644, and Catharine of Braganza 1663, and Mary of Modena, the second queen of James II., in 1687. It was visited by Charles II., with James, Duke of York, his duchess, and Prince Rupert, in the autumn of 1663. Queen Anne, when princess, visited Bath, 1692. She was out of favour at court, and her royal sister vented her petty spite by forbidding the Mayor and Corporation to accompany her to church, as was the custom. At their request she, together with her consort, Prince George of Denmark, repeated her visit 10 years later as queen, when she was received by 200 damsels dressed as Amazons, and 100 young men uniformly clad and armed. Some years later, 1728, the Princess Amelia, daughter of George II., was welcomed with much pomp and pageantry, and escorted by 100 young men fancifully dressed. In 1734 the Prince of Orange, who the same year married Anne, the elder sister of the Princess Amelia, remained some time here, residing at the West Gate, leaving a memorial of his visit in the name of "Orange Grove" and its obelisk. Frederick, Prince of Wales, and his princess were here in 1731, in whose honour the obelisk in the centre of Queen's Square was erected. In 1795 the Duke and Duchess of York visited Bath, and the next year H.R.H. the Prince of Wales. In 1817 Queen Charlotte, accompanied by the Duke of Clarence, afterwards William IV., honoured Bath with her presence, and resided in Sydney Place, Nos. 93 and 103 being engaged for the royal party, and here she received the intelligence of the death of the Princess Charlotte. In 1830, October 21st, the Duchess of Kent with the Princess Victoria arrived here, and gave its present designation to the Royal Victoria Park.

Bath was at one time the seat of flourishing trade and manufactures. In former times, indeed as early as the reign of Richard Cœur de Lion, it appears that there was an active trade with Bristol in wine, salt, wool, silks, cloth, and wax. The woollen trade flourished here principally in the 14th and 15th centuries, and even from the reign of Henry VIII. to the 17th century its looms, of which as many as 150 are said to have plied in Walcot, were noted for this product of industry.* About the time of Charles II. it began to decline, and, except a the suburb of Twer-

* "Bath beaver," a kind of woollen cloth, was famous as early as the 15th century; but before that, we learn from Chaucer's "Wife of Bath," the city was well known for its trade in cloth :—

"Of cloth-making she hadde such an haunt,
She passed hem of Ypris and of Gaunt."

ton, the trade has disappeared. Its cloth-making celebrity may be traced to the patronage of the prior and monks of the day. A shuttle was added to the arms of the monastery in the 14th century, and was to be seen on the front of the abbey-house in the last century.

The architectural attractions of Bath, which are now so conspicuous, are entirely of modern growth. It was hemmed in with its ancient walls and kept strictly to the old limits till the early part of the last century. The description given by Leland in the middle of the 16th century is very graphic.

"Bath," he writes, "is sette booth yn a fruteful and pleasant botom, the which is invironid on every side with great hills, out of the which cum many springes of pure water, that be conveyid by dyverse ways to serve the cyte. There be 4 gates yn the town, by the names of Est, &c. The waulle within the toun is of no great heighth to the eyes, but without it is *a fundamentis* of a reasonable heighth; and it standith allmoste alle, lakking but a peace about 'Gascoyns tower.' This took its name from one Gascoyne, who 'in hominum memoria' built a peace of walle as amends for a fault committed in the city."

Chapman, in the 17th century, says, "The streets are of the narrowest size, especially that nearest the centre, called Cheap Street. It is walled round with time-defying stone. The city stands on a *batch*, as we call it, in a bottom from 15 to 20 ft. higher than surface without. The whole is one entire rampart, a coffin filled with earth."

The old city was intersected by *High Street*, leading from the North Gate to the abbey, where *Cheap Street* started at right angles to it, and continued under the name of *Westgate Street* to the West Gate. Some distance up this street *Stall Street* went off at right angles to the South Gate. The course of the N. and S. walls may be traced by the streets bearing the name of the *Borough Walls*. In the "Upper Borough Walls," opposite the Bluecoat School, a fragment of the rampart still exists, capped by a modern battlement, erected to mark the spot by the late J. H. Markland, F.R.S. Another fragment incorporating the pointed arch of the *East Gate* (a mere postern towards the river) is to be seen in Boatstall Lane, at the back of the market, and is worth attention.

Pepys visited the city in 1668, and leaves us the following account of it in his diary:—"Having dined very well—10s.—we came before night to the Bath, when I presently stepped out with my landlord, and saw the Baths with people in them. They are not so large as I expected, but yet pleasant, and the town most of stone, and clean, though the streets generally narrow. I home, and being weary, went to bed without supper; the rest supping." Pepys, however, only saw the fair outside of things. Wood, the famous architect, takes us behind the scenes, and shows us domestic Bath up to the beginning of the 18th century. "The boards of the dining-rooms," he tells us, "and most other floors, in the houses of Bath, were made of a brown colour with *soot and small-beer*, to hide the dirt as well as their own imperfections; and if the walls of any of the rooms were covered with wainscot, it was such as was mean, and never painted. The chimney-pieces, hearths, and slabs, were all of freestone; and these were daily cleaned with a particular kind of whitewash, which, by paying tribute to everything that touched it, soon rendered the brown

floors like the starry firmament. . . . With Kidderminster stuff, or at best with chene, the woollen furniture of the principal rooms was made; and such as were of linen consisted only of corded dimity or coarse fustian, the matrons of the city, their daughters, and their maids flowering the latter with worsted during the intervals between the seasons, to give the beds a gaudy look. Add to this also, the houses of the richest inhabitants of the city were, for the most part, of the meanest architecture, and only two of them could show the modern comforts of sash-windows." The city seems to have stood still at this point for a century at least, for between the years 1592 and 1692 it had only increased by 17 houses!

The "Beggars of Bath" were proverbial, "for whither," says Fuller, "should fowl flock in a hard frost but to the barn door, here all the two seasons being the general confluence of the gentry?"

From this abject condition Bath was raised to the highest pitch of architectural magnificence and popularity as a fashionable resort by the influenee of two men, Wood, the architect, under the auspices of Ralph Allen, his munificent patron, and Nash, the Master of the Ceremonies.

The elder Wood, a man of true architectural genius, began his building speculations in 1728, when Queen Square was erected in what had been a common field. In 1740 the N. and S. parades rose out of a flat marsh. Gay Street and the Circus, which was not completed till after his decease, followed in 1754. The Royal Crescent, the most splendid and symmetrical example of classical architecture in Bath, was designed by the younger Wood in 1769, together with Camden Place (now Crescent) and Pulteney Street. From this time it was deemed the source of health, and was the focus of fashion. To "the Bath" Fielding and Smollett bring their heroes. Lord Chesterfield was often here, and the great Earl of Chatham, who as William Pitt represented the city in Parliament, resided in the Circus. Anstey (1760), in his well-known "New Bath Guide," ridiculed the follies of the place, and Beau Nash regulated its fashions.

"To Nash Bath must mainly attribute the rapidity with which it sprang from an insignificant place into the focus of fashionable life and the most 'pleasurable' city in the kingdom.

"When he arrived at Bath in 1703, it was almost entirely devoid of elegant or attractive amusements. The only promenade was a grove of sycamores, and the only ball-room was the bowling green, with a hautboy and fiddle for band. Mob-law prevailed, and no respectable female could pass along the streets unprotected after dark. The Pump House was without a director, and entirely devoid of attractiveness." The baths, which, according to Dr. Jordan, 1631, had been bear-gardens, where both sexes bathed promiscuously, while the passers-by pelted them with dead dogs, cats, and frogs, were still "unseemly ponds, exposed to wind and rain, as well as to the public gaze." Nash asked for a band of music. His request was granted, and the Pump Room speedily attracted a large and fashionable company, and Nash was speedily voted Master of the Ceremonies, or King of Bath. The company, which had hitherto been obliged to assemble in a booth to drink tea and chocolate, or to game, were, under his direction, accommodated with a handsome assembly room.

Nash reached the zenith of his greatness between the years 1730 and 1740. Within that time Bath was honoured by two royal visitors: the Prince of Orange in 1734 and Frederick, Prince of Wales, in 1738. Nash turned both to good account. An obelisk in *Orange Grove*—an open space to the E. of the abbey—commemorates the restoration to health of the Dutch prince, "to the extreme joy of Britain." A similar erection in Queen Square, with a mediocre inscription which Nash worried Pope into writing, perpetuates the visit of his royal brother-in-law.

The evening of Nash's life was embittered by poverty and the desertion of his gay and titled friends; the Corporation granted him ten guineas a month, and when he died in 1761, at the age of 87, defrayed the cost of his funeral, which took place publicly in the abbey. Nash's house in St. John's Court, afterwards tenanted by Mrs. Delany, is now the Garrick's Head public-house.

After Nash's death, Bath continued to grow and spread into the parish of Bathwick, on the other side of the river, the plans being due to Baldwin, on whom Wood's mantle had fallen. About 1770 a bridge was thrown over the Avon, at the cost of Sir W. Johnstone Pulteney, Bart., and the meadows were soon covered with streets.

The pen of the novelist has invested Bath with a vivid, though fictitious, interest. The readers of *Miss Burney's* "Evelina" will remember the scenes laid in the Pump Room and its vicinity, while Miss Austen has peopled the city with interesting remains for the lovers of her exquisite fictions. It was in Pulteney Street that Catherine Morland lodged with her friends the Allens, General Tilney and his son and daughter occupying apartments in Milsom Street; it was at the Lower Rooms her first introduction to Henry Tilney took place. The pompous Sir Walter Elliot and his daughter had a house in Camden Place, their grand friends "the Dowager Viscountess Dalrymple and the Hon. Miss Carteret" in Laura Place: "none of your Queen Square houses for us." On the walk by Belmont from Union Street to Camden Place the eclaircissement between Anne Elliot and Captain Wentworth took place; her humble friend Mrs. Smith lived in "Westgate Buildings," to which "Lady Russell's carriage took her as near as it could."

Among the natives of Bath were the ever-memorable *John Hales*, of Eton (b. 1584), author of "The Golden Remains"; *Palmer*, the inventor of the mail-coach system (b. 1742); *Richard Lovel Edgeworth* (b. 1744); *Archbp. Laurence* of Cashel; *Sir H. Cole*, K.C.B., ("Felix Summerly"), of South Kensington notoriety; *Terry*, the comedian; *Hone*, the author of "The Every-day Book" and "The late Edwin Long, R.A."; *William Prynne* (b. at Swainswick, 1600). The 2 *Lysons* and *Sir Sydney Smith*, also *De Quincey*, were educated at the Grammar School, a foundation of Edward VI.

Among the residents may be noticed *Joseph Glanvill*, author of "Sadducismus Triumphatus," who, like *Carte* the historian, was incumbent of the Abbey Church; *Quin*, the actor (d. 1766); *Anstey*, author of "The New Bath Guide"; *Governor Pownall* (d. 1805); *Dr. Haweis*, chaplain to the Countess of Huntingdon, and preacher of the London Missionary Society (d. 1820); *Mrs. Piozzi* (d. 1821); the Dissenting preacher *Jay* (d. (1853); *R. B. Sheridan* and the

Linleys; Beckford, Landor; Sir T. Laurence, Gainsborough, W. Smith, the father of English geology, and many other men of repute.

Bath is traversed by two great parallel avenues, which, under different names, and not in an uninterrupted straight line, run northwards from the Avon.

First, that which runs from the old bridge over the Avon on the Bristol and Wells road, through *Southgate Street*, *Stall Street*, *Union Street*, *Old Bond Street*, and *Milsom Street*, the Regent Street of Bath, containing the finest shops. At the termination of this, deviating a little to the right, the parallel continues by *Belmont* to *Belvedere* and *Camden Crescent*, one of the best pieces of architecture in Bath, and commanding a splendid view. On the right a *second* parallel of streets commences on the N. side of the Abbey Church, curving with the bend of the river for a great length, under the names of *High Street*, *Northgate Street*, *Walcot Street*, *Lady Mead*, *London Street*, *Grosvenor Place*, etc. From these two parallels the other streets branch off for the most part right and left, or rather E. and W.

On the opposite side of the Avon the principal street is *Pulteney Street* (1788), communicating W. by *Laura Place* and *Argyle Street* with the *Pulteney Bridge*, and E. by *Sydney Place* with the pleasant promenade known as *Sydney Gardens*.

The Avon is crossed by 4 bridges—*St. Lawrence's*, or the *Old Bridge*, built 1304, rebuilt 1754; *Pulteney Bridge*, with a row of houses and shops on either side shutting out all view of the river, 1769; *Bathwick* or *Cleveland Bridge*, 1827; *North Parade Bridge*, 1836. To these we may add the 2 rly. bridges, the Midland and the *Skew Bridge*, crossing the river at a very acute angle, 3 suspension bridges, and a small wooden bridge near the station for foot-passengers, the scene of a lamentable accident, June 6th, 1877.

The chief things to be seen in Bath are the *Abbey* and the *Pump Room* and *Baths*, close to it, both not ¼ m. from the station. Then hire a fly, or walk up to *Camden Crescent* and *Lansdown Crescent*, whence you have good views of the city. Descend through the *Royal Crescent*, *Circus*, and *Queen Square*, the 3 finest architectural bits in Bath, and so back to the station. By all means visit the antiquities in the *Institution*, the geological collection of Mr. C. Moore, and the Holburne Art Museum, the collections of pictures, china, plate, etc., in which are unusually worthy of attention. The finest view of Bath is from *Beechen Cliff*, the steep eminence overhanging the rly. on the S., 400 ft. above the Avon. It may be reached in 10 minutes from the station, walking up *Holloway* (the Roman Fosseway), and taking the path to the l. At night the view is curious and beautiful.

The **Abbey Church**, dedicated to SS. Peter and Paul, stands a short distance to the W. of the station.

Founded as a nunnery by Osric, 676, it was destroyed by the Danes

and refounded as a college of secular canons by Offa, c. 775. Edgar, c. 970, exchanged the seculars for Benedictine regulars, of whom Alphege, the martyred Archbishop of Canterbury, was abbot. John de Villula having bought the city of Henry I. for 500 pounds of silver, together with the abbey, which he rebuilt from the foundations, removed hither the seat of the bishopric of Wells, 1090. After many disputes between the monks of Bath and the canons of Wells concerning the place of the see, which De Villula's successor, Robert, sought to heal by the decision that the bishop should bear the style of "Bath and Wells," and should be elected by an equal number of members of each body, the episcopal residence was restored to Wells by Joceline Trotman, 1206, the bishop thenceforward taking the title of Bishop of Bath and Wells. As in other monastic cathedrals, the bishop took the place of the abbot, and the house was governed by a prior till the dissolution, when it was surrendered to the Crown by Prior Holway, 1539. The offer of the fabric of the church to the city for 500 marks having been refused, the glass, iron, and lead were sold to certain merchants, and the bare carcass purchased by Humphrey Colles, 1542, who sold it to Matthew Colthurst, whose son Edmund made a present of it to the citizens of Bath, of which, though deprived of all its ornaments, it has since remained the mother church. It is one of the latest specimens of Perp. Gothic in the kingdom, commenced 1499 by Prior Birde and Bp. Oliver King. The present church occupies no more than the nave of the huge Norman fabric. The fabric was arrested in its progress 1539 by the dissolution of the abbey, and the church was left incomplete, in which state it remained, becoming more and more ragged and dilapidated, till 1572, when some repairs were begun at the E. end by one Mr. Peter Chapman. These repairs were carried on by subscription through Elizabeth's reign, till the choir was sufficiently finished to be consecrated. The aisles and transept were continued by various benefactors, Bp. Montagu completing the nave c. 1609. According to a tradition, the Bishop being overtaken by a sudden shower when walking with Sir J. Harington, of Kelston, in the Grove, was artfully conducted by him into the roofless church, under pretence of taking shelter, and was thus excited to complete the unfinished work.

The plan of the church is a simple cross, with a tower at the intersection, which is singular from not being square in the plan, the transepts, as at St. Mary Redcliffe, Bristol, being 11 ft. narrower than the nave and choir. Its length from E. to W. is 207 ft., that of the nave 112 ft., of the transepts 126 ft. It is 72 ft. wide from wall to wall. The vault is 73 ft. from the ground. The nave is 5 bays in length, the choir 3 bays, the tower 162 ft. high. The whole is of the same date and design, exhibiting Late and rather coarse Perp. The height of the clerestory and the size of the windows are remarkable features. There are no additional buildings, save a small Late vestry added to the E. of the S. transept. The bases of two huge Norm. piers on the outside of the E. end are relics of Bishop de Villula's building; and during the recent restoration

several other piers of the Norm. nave have been laid bare. "The whole work of the present *Ch.* shows a singular mixture of plainness and ornament, some of the mouldings and details being extravagantly large, and others uncommonly small. It nevertheless contains some parts of great beauty." — *Rickman.* The exterior was repaired in 1833, when the flying buttresses were completed, and, most unwarrantably, spirelets added to the E. and W. turrets, as well as to those of the tower, completely altering the outline of the building. The whole has been again restored by Sir G. Scott at great cost, and with strict attention to the original design. Bp. Montagu's lath-and-plaster coved ceiling over the nave has given place to a fan-vault, corresponding to that covering the rest of the church. This restoration was set on foot and zealously promoted by a former wealthy and munificent rector of Bath, the Rev. C. Kemble. The work was begun 1864, and completed 1873, at a cost of about £30,000.

The W. front has a magnificent window of 7 lights, flanked by turrets, on which are carved angels, ascending and descending by ladders, to commemorate a vision of Bp. King in 1499, who was instigated to the work by a revelation of the Holy Trinity with angels on a ladder, and an olive-tree supporting a crown, which he interpreted of his own name, Oliver King. The winged figures are now headless and mutilated. The space above the window is also filled with angels on corbels; the figures are well designed, but much defaced. The battlements of this front are varied, and very rich. Over the W. door, erected by Sir H. Montagu, brother of the Bishop, 1617, are the arms of Winchester, to which see the Bishop had been translated, impaling "Montagu"; on the sides of it statues of Prior Bird and Bp. King; over the N. door a figure of King Edgar, and over the S. door one of King Osric, founder of the monastery.

The E. front is very plain and heavy. The great E. window, also of 7 lights, has 3 transoms, and is enclosed within a square head. The turrets are square. The N. and S. transept windows are very fine. The aisle windows are low and inelegant, those of the clerestory well proportioned.

The interior well deserves old Fuller's commendation as being "both spacious and specious," while the number and size of the windows, now mostly filled with stained glass, have justly earned for it the title of "The Lantern of the West." The great square-headed E. window and that in the S. transept are excellent examples of Messrs. Clayton and Bell's work. Before the restoration of 1864 the choir was shut off from the nave by a close modern screen, and was encumbered with high pews and heavy galleries. The whole is now thrown open from end to end, and refitted in a more appropriate style. The lateness of the building makes itself disagreeably evident in the details of the architecture. The mouldings of the piers and arches are somewhat large and coarse. Despite these facts, the abbey has, from certain points of view, a considerable nobleness of aspect.

There is no triforium, the sills of the clerestory windows being brought down to the string above the arches. The fan-tracery roof is peculiarly rich. The eastern-most arch on the S. side of the choir is filled with the chapel of Prior Bird, 1515, left unfinished, but completed according to the original rich design by the family of the late Rev. C. Kemble. The prior's rebus, a bird, and the letter W. will be noticed. It is sadly crowded with tasteless monuments, though less conspicuous than they once were. They are, indeed, so numerous that one might suppose truth, as well as wit, had been expressed by Dr. Harington's epigram :—

"These walls, adorned with monument and bust,
Show how Bath waters serve to lay the dust,"

or by this :—

"Messieurs, vous voyez très bien ici
Que ces eaux ne sont pas d'eaux de vie."

The chief are—between the pillars on the *N. side of the nave*, the altar-tomb of Bp. Montagu, with his effigy, under a Corinthian canopy (d. 1618); those of Beau Nash, a plain marble tablet, with epitaph by Dr. Harington; of the Hon. William Bingham, by *Flaxman*, flanked by figures of 2 angels; of William Clements; of James Quin (d. 1766), with medallion portrait and inscription by Garrick; those of Herman Katencamp (d. 1807), by the younger *Bacon*, and of Colonel Champion, by *Nollekens;* of Malthus, author of the "Essay on Population" (d. 1834); and of Sarah Fielding (d. 1768), with inscription by Dr. John Hoadley —"For the honour of the dead and the emulation of the living."

One of the most interesting is that against the S. wall of the *S. transept*, to Lady Waller, with her husband—who fought at Lansdown and Roundway—mourning over her, and a little child, quaintly dressed, seated in a chair at the side.

Scandalous gossip asserts that James II., passing through the abbey in company with Friar Huddlestone, vented his spleen by hacking off the nose of the warrior. Pepys, however, in his diary, 1668, some years before James came to the throne, exonerates him from the outrage. He says, "Looked over the monuments, where, among others, Dr. Venner, and Pelling (rector of Bath), and a lady of Sir W. Waller's, he lying with his face broken."

In the *N. transept* are the monuments of Fletcher Partis, founder of the college named after him; of Sir R. H. Bickerton, by *Chantrey;* of Dr. Sibthorp, the botanist, a pleasing work by *Flaxman;* of James Tamesz Grieve, physician to the Empress Elizabeth of Russia, an interesting sculpture of the wife eagerly attempting to arrest the dart of Death; and, on the N. wall of the N. transept, of Mary Frampton, 1676, with an epitaph by Dryden, which will repay perusal. In the N. aisle of the choir is that of Dr. Postlethwaite, Master of Trinity, 1798; and in the S. aisle those of Hoare, the artist, by *Chantrey*, and Colonel Alexander Champion (d. 1793), by *Nollekens;* in the *chancel*, N. of the altar, of Lady Miller, a pretty specimen of the elder

Bacon's sculpture. On the S. side is that of Bartholomew Barnes, 1607.

Sir William Draper, whose name survives in connection with the castigation he received from Junius, has a long, turgid Latin epitaph in the S. aisle.

The other churches of Bath may be soon dismissed. They are all modern. Two stand on the sites of ancient churches: **St. James**, at the S. gate, rebuilt in a plain, classical style by Palmer, of Bath, 1768, and the tower, 150 ft. high, completed in 1848; and **St. Michael**, outside the old N. gate (the fourth on the same site), with a lofty and elegant spire, 182 ft. high, rebuilt in E.E. Gothic in 1836, and remarkably good for the date. *Stall Church*, St. Mary of the Stall (*de Stabula*, "of the Manger"), has entirely disappeared. **Walcot Church**, standing at the angle of the Roman Fosseway, and the vicinal way to Weston, was rebuilt in a heavy classical style in 1780. It contains tablets to the memory of Madame D'Arblay (Fanny Burney, the authoress of "Evelina") and her husband, General D'Arblay, and their son, also to Christopher Anstey, and to Governor Pownall. The elevated position of **St. Stephen's**, at the top of Lansdown Hill, renders its pinnacled tower a very conspicuous object in the views of the city, but it is utterly undeserving of notice. It is incorrectly oriented, or rather not oriented at all, as it stands N. and S. There are several new churches in and about Bath more or less commendable, but not calling for much special remark. The best is **St. Andrew's**, at the rear of the Royal Crescent, by the late Sir G. G. Scott. **St. Mary's**, Bathwick, Vane Street has a chancel by Mr. G. E. Street.

The most striking modern ecclesiastical building is the **Roman Catholic Church of St. John the Evangelist** (*C. Hansom*, arch.), on the South Parade. It is a rich flamboyant building, with a lofty spire, very conspicuous from the rly.

On leaving the abbey, a few steps bring us to the *Pump Room* and the *Baths*.

The ***Pump Room** first demands notice. This is a classical structure, rebuilt, with a Corinthian portico, by Palmer, 1796, and bearing on its front a Pindaric motto—ΑΡΙΣΤΟΝ ΜΕΝ ΥΔΩΡ—"Water best of elements." The interior is a spacious saloon, 86 ft. in length by 56 ft. in breadth and 34 ft. in height, with coved recesses at each end, and in one a statue (by Prince Hoare) of *Beau Nash*, so long the arbiter of fashion here. The water tumbles continually into a marble vase, and fills the room with its pleasant murmurs. It comes from a point quite distinct from the baths, so that "ladies may drink it out of the pump" without any fear of the ablutions detailed by Anstey.

The Corporation have recently spent £30,000 in adding to the Pump Room an extension known as the "Roman Promenade," which includes a large and stately concert room, beautiful drawing, smoking, and retiring rooms, and a museum of Roman remains in the basement. The splendid Roman ruins have also

been protected, galleries running round the large bath, adorned with statues of famous Romans whose connection with the city can be established. Adjoining the Pump Room is

The **King's** or principal bath, which measures 59ft. by 40ft., and is open to the sky, with a covered colonnade on one side. In the centre of the bath stood a copper statue of Prince Bladud, "eighth king of the Britons from Brute, a great philosopher and mathematician, bred at Athens," set up 1699. The bath is filled daily to a height of 4 ft. 7 in., and contains about 364 tuns of water. Dressing and retiring rooms communicate with it, and the bathers, properly attired, formerly walked about in the water. Bathers may select for themselves a degree of heat varying from 100° to 112°. The spring issues from its source at 117° Fahr., and yields 3 hogsheads per minute. In the great days of Bath ladies and gentlemen used to meet together in the water (as is still the practice in many watering-places abroad), the ladies' coiffées in the extreme of fashion, the gentlemen with powdered hair and bag-wigs.

"'T was a glorious sight to behold the fair sex
All wading with gentlemen up to their necks." *Anstey.*

The **Queen's Bath** (so named from Anne, the consort of James I.) was 27 ft. square. It no longer exists, but was supplied from the same source as the King's, though, as the water flowed into it through a passage, the temperature was rather lower.

Private baths, in the upper story of the building in Stall Street, are supplied at suitable temperatures. This establishment is excellently arranged and conducted. Douche baths, by which a stream of hot water is applied to any limb or part of the body, without immersing the whole, are provided; the process is here called dry pumping.

The **Cross Bath,** 23 ft. by 22 ft., so called from a cross which, from ancient times, stood in the midst, and was renewed in honour of a visit from Mary Beatrice of Modena, the second wife of James II., in 1687, by John, Earl Melfort, Sec. of State, is resorted to by the less affluent classes, who pay only 2d. and 1d. for admission. The temperature is 90° to 98°.

The **Tepid Swimming Bath,** a neat building, erected in 1829, from a design of Decimus Burton (entrance piazza in Bath Street), measures 65 ft. by 25 ft. The temperature is 88°.

The **Hot Bath,** 60 ft. by 22 ft. (end of Bath Street), built by the younger Wood, is a very elegant structure, remarkable for the great beauty of the sculptured foliage and fruit. It is supplied with the hottest of the Bath waters, the spring gushing from its source at a temperature of 120° Fahr.

The **New Royal Baths,** which have been thoroughly renovated, in connection with the *Grand Pump Room Hotel*, erected 1869 by the Corporation at a cost of about £12,000, which are not surpassed in cleanliness, comfort, and convenience by any in Europe. There are 7 deep baths, each containing 750 to 800 gallons, of large dimensions, lined with

Dutch tiles, having steps descending into them. One is provided with an invalid chair and crane to facilitate the immersion of feeble patients. A hydraulic lift connects the baths with every floor of the hotel.

The **Hetling,** or **Hot Bath Pump Room** (now closed), is opposite the Hot Bath, at the corner of Hetling Court.

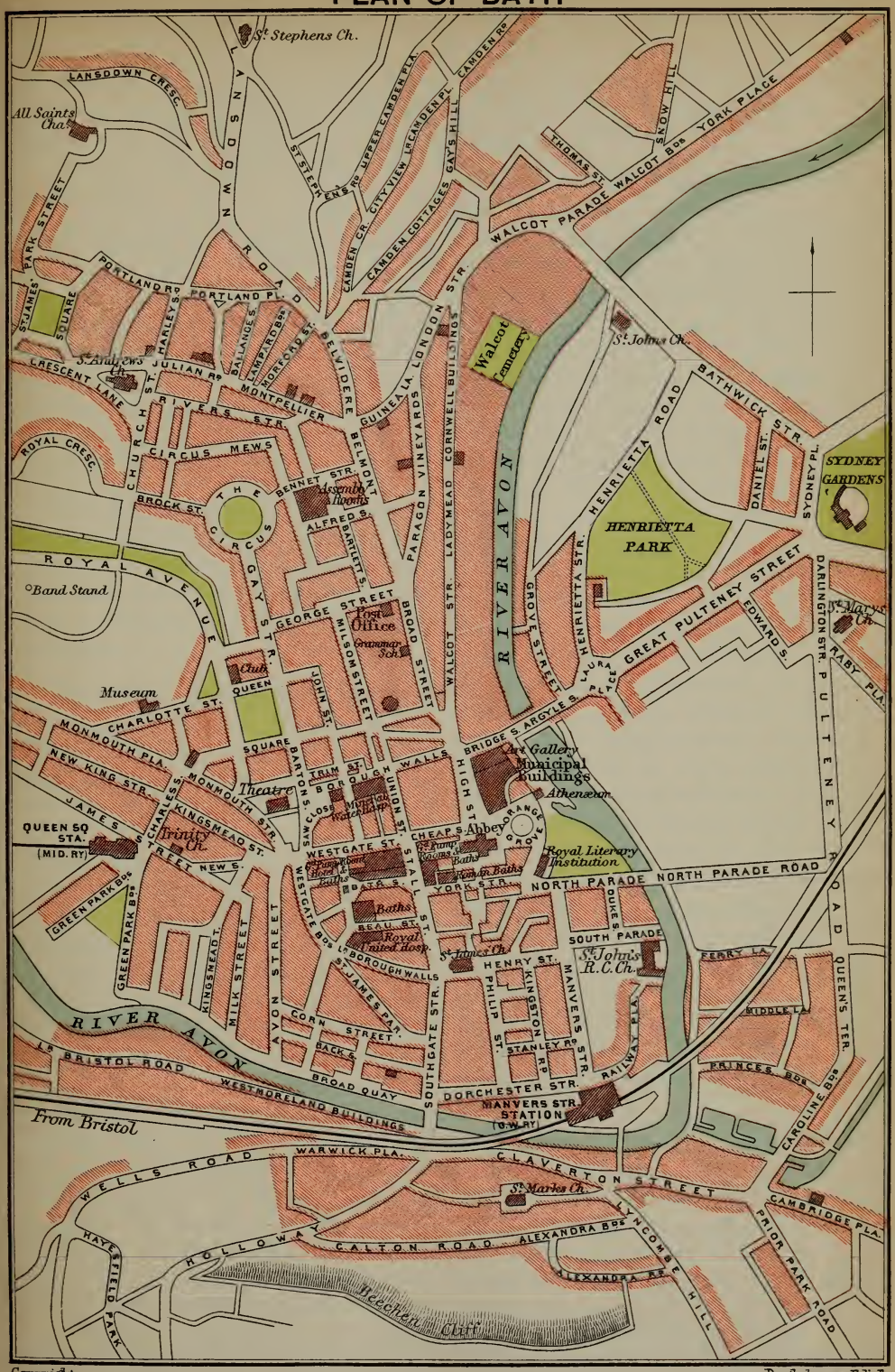
The **Kingston Baths,** in Church Street, occupy the site of the Roman baths, and were the property of Earl Manvers, but, with all the other baths, now belong to the borough, and are under the superintendence of the Town Council. They are open from 6 a.m. till 10 p.m., on Sundays from 7 to 9.30 a.m. and 1 to 3 p.m. The time usually chosen for bathing is between 11 a.m. and 5 p.m. The Nauheim aerated baths, recently introduced, are valuable to visitors with weak hearts, and prevent the necessity of the long journey to Germany.

The Bath waters rise in 4 distinct springs, and are the hottest of any known in England, having a temperature at one of the sources of 120° Fahr. They act as a stimulant, and are considered efficacious in gout and paralysis and the numerous diseases depending on a relaxed state of the fibres, but may be injurious where there are inflammatory symptoms. They are supplied to the hospitals, and in particular to the **Bath Mineral Water Hospital,** a noble institution, which was founded in 1737 for their special administration to the poor. A new wing on the site of the old rectory was opened in 1861, and a chapel added, the fittings of which deserve special examination from the combination of richness and refined taste they display. A Roman tessellated pavement remains *in situ.*

After the Abbey Church, Pump Room, and Baths, the visitor will do well to turn his steps to

The **Royal Literary and Scientific Institution** (a little S.E. of the abbey), on the North Parade. It was built 1824, and occupies the site of the Old Assembly Rooms, destroyed by fire 1820, of which the Doric portico, erected by Wilkins in 1810, is a remnant. It possesses a reading-room, well-stored library of 8000 volumes, including the collection of books on natural science, and the herbarium of the Rev. Leonard Blomefield, and museum. The *Museum* contains Roman antiquities discovered in and near the city, votive altars to the goddess Sul, sepulchral cippi, etc., all so well ticketed that description is needless. The Great Hall and the geological gallery contain a fine geological collection, including Saurians and other organic remains deposited by the late C. Moore, F.G.S., with collections to illustrate the geology of the neighbourhood, and of England and Wales generally, carefully arranged. There are also a cabinet of coins, a collection of birds, amounting to 1500 specimens, bequeathed to the city by Mrs. Godfrey, the Duncan Local Museum of Natural History, and the Lockey Museum of Ethnology. The Museum is free to the public between 11 and 4, except on Tuesdays and Fridays, when a small charge is

PLAN OF BATH



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Scale of ¼ Mile

Bartholomew, Edinr

London. John Murray, Albemarle Street.

made. In the garden, which is situated on the bank of the river, the site of the once famous bowling-green, a band plays occasionally.

The **Holburne Art Museum**, open free daily from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., comprises the art collections of the late Sir T. W. Holburne, Bart., of Menstrie, and includes porcelain, silver plate, pictures, miniatures, gems, etc. It is one of the noblest benefactions to Bath of recent years.

The **Athenæum**, in the Orange Grove, adjoining the abbey, originally a mechanics' institution, has an excellent reading-room, and a library of more than 5000 volumes.

The **Old Assembly Rooms**, the scene of Beau Nash's glory, erected in the first half of the last century, were destroyed by fire in 1820. Nash was Master of the Ceremonies nearly fifty years, from 1710 to 1760. This office is now done away with. The existing or **Upper Assembly Rooms**, built by the younger Wood, 1771, at a cost of £20,000, are noble rooms, handsomely furnished and decorated. The ball-room is 107 ft. by 42 ft., the card-room 70 ft. by 27 ft., the octagon-room 48 ft. in diameter, and the tea-room 66 ft. by 41 ft. The octagon contains full-length portraits of Beau Nash and Colonel Wade, the latter by (?) *Gainsborough*, who resided for some time at Bath, in the Circus. Balls are frequently given during the season, also entertainments and concerts of all classes. The Bath Quartette Society, a unique association established forty years ago, gives delightful concerts of chamber music, which have a character all their own.

In the **Guildhall**, built 1768–75, by Baldwin, on the site of one by Inigo Jones, are portraits of Frederick, Prince of Wales, and his consort, George III. and Queen Charlotte, Pitt, Earl of Chatham, and Earl Camden (who both represented Bath in Parliament), by Prince Hoare, and busts of Beau Nash and Allen. There are also portraits and bust of Sir Jerome Murch, a distinguished citizen, seven times mayor, and a leader of thought.

The Guildhall has recently had two wings added, and the whole forms a very beautiful and imposing block of buildings. The S. portion is devoted to new *municipal offices*, council chambers, and magistrates' courts; the N. block to very successful *art and technical schools*. A further addition is being made (adjoining the schools) in the form of the **Victoria Art Gallery and Reference Library**, erected as a Diamond Jubilee memorial at a cost of £13,000. Of this sum £9000 was a bequest from Mrs. Roxburgh, and the rest public subscription. This will doubtless be a very attractive and valuable institution.

Hetling House, in Hetling Court, near the Pump Room, is one of the oldest mansions in Bath. Its great room, of which the chimney-piece, bearing the arms of the Clarkes, is a fine specimen of decoration, is now used as an Oddfellows' Hall.

The excellent *Robert Nelson*, author of the "Fasts and Festivals," founded the **Bluecoat**

School in 1711. It was rebuilt in the Elizabethan style in 1859. A tessellated pavement discovered on the site has been relaid in the lobby.

Bp. Butler, author of the "Analogy," died in the family mansion of the Rosewells, 14, *Kingsmead Square.*

No. 5, Trim Street, was the residence of *General Wolfe* and his family. The *Rev. Joseph Hunter*, the archæologist and topographer, author of the "History of Hallamshire," etc., was for 25 years minister of the Unitarian Chapel in Trim Street, in which previously S. T. Coleridge had been an occasional preacher. At the *Octagon Chapel*, opened 1767 as the place of worship for "the opulent and noble," *W. Connor Magee*, afterwards Bishop of Peterborough and Archbishop of York, officiated, 1850–60. No. 19, New King Street, was the house of the astronomer *Herschel*, who was organist of the Octagon Chapel, 1767.

Thomas Haynes Bayly, the writer of once popular drawing-room songs, lived in Catherine Place. *Gainsborough*, the painter, resided at No. 24 in the Circus, *Mrs. Piozzi* in Gay Street, in a house profusely ornamented with carved wreaths.

Walter Savage Landor, the author of the "Imaginary Conversations," resided at 3, Rivers Street.

A very interesting list of houses resided in by famous persons has been compiled by Mr. J. F. Meehan, of 32, Gay Street (6d.), which should be consulted by all visitors to Bath who are interested in this subject.

Partis College, on Newbridge Hill, between Bath and Kelston, is an institution for the reception of 30 reduced gentlewomen (10 of them must be widows or daughters of clergymen of the Church of England), who are each furnished with a separate house of 4 rooms and an allowance. It was founded by Mrs. Partis, in conformity with the intention of her deceased husband, Fletcher Partis, and was completed in 1827. It is a Gothic building, with a chapel in the centre.

The **Wesleyan** or **New Kingswood College**, a Tudor structure, erected 1850, from the designs of Mr. James Wilson, F.S.A., occupies a commanding site on the ascent of Lansdown. It has a tower in the centre 90 ft. in height.

The **Lansdown Royal School for Daughters of Officers in the Army**, lower down on the hill, was completed 1858, by the same architect, and has also a lofty central tower. The architecture is Gothic, of the Geometric period, with traceried windows.

The **Victoria Park** is a very beautiful landscape garden and pleasure-ground of about 10 acres, immediately below the Royal Crescent, approached through the *Royal Avenue*, which is laid out with plantations, shrubberies, and walks, exhibiting a collection of acclimatized trees and shrubs almost unique in its completeness, all conspicuously labelled. At the entrance of the park is an obelisk, erected 1837, in honour of her present Majesty, in whose presence in 1830

(while princess) this agreeable public garden, created at the expense of some zealous citizens and inhabitants of Bath, who contributed £5000 to this object, was thrown open. Higher on the hill is a colossal bust of Jupiter, by Osborne, a self-taught artist, who died in poverty. It is made of a single block of Bath stone, weighing more than 6 tons, and is 7 ft. high. The delightful *Botanic Garden*, situated in the park, is beautifully laid out, and visitors should not neglect to visit it. Besides being of scientific value, it is extremely picturesque.

The **Sydney Gardens**, at the end of Pulteney Street, were formerly the "Vauxhall" of Bath. They occupy 16 acres, and were laid out in 1795. The Kennet and Avon Canal and Great Western Rly. both pass through them. They afford a delightful recreation ground, with retired walks shaded by fine trees. **Henrietta Park**, the gift of Captain Forester, is a recent addition to the city of gardens. It is situated in Bathwick, and was laid out very tastefully by the Corporation, and opened on Jubilee Day, 1897.

Hedgemead Park is situated on the slope below Camden Crescent and Beacon Hill. It was formed by the Corporation on the site of some destroyed property, and always presents a brilliant appearance.

In Lansdown Crescent lived *William Beckford*, of Fonthill, the talented but eccentric author of "Vathek"; and on the summit of Lansdown, which is 813 ft. above the sea-level, and now covered with houses to within a short distance of the top, stands

Beckford's Tower, erected after Mr. Beckford had taken up his residence in Lansdown Crescent in 1822. It is a plain classical tower, crowned with an octagonal lantern, rising to the height of 130 ft., and commands an extensive view. The tower and the rooms connected with it, in Beckford's lifetime, formed a storehouse of treasures of art in pictures, gems, statues, etc. After Mr. Beckford's death, in 1844, the property was in danger of being turned into public tea-gardens, but was happily rescued from such desecration by his daughter, the Duchess of Hamilton, who purchased and presented the ground to the Rector of Walcot as a public cemetery for Walcot parish. A handsome modern gateway in the Byzantine style has been erected, and Beckford's tomb, which formerly stood in the cemetery of Widcombe Vale, has been removed here. It is a sarcophagus of red granite, which was prepared for him in his lifetime, with inscriptions selected by himself, on one side :—

"Eternal Power,
Grant me, through obvious clouds, one transient gleam
Of Thy bright essence in my dying hour!"

on the other :—

"Enjoying humbly the most precious gift of Heaven to man—hope."

[The walks and rides around Bath may be almost infinitely varied, and derive a peculiar charm from the wood and rock in the vales, the height of the hills—each with a distinct and extensive view—the numerous old camps, the curious churches, and

the farmhouses of Elizabethan or an earlier date, which abound in the district.

EXCURSIONS.

(a) To **Sham Castle,** an artificial ruin built 1760, on Bathwick Hill, by Ralph Allen, to improve the view from his town residence, now buried among houses at the end of the North Parade. It is a fine point of view. You may extend your walk to the summit of **Hampton Down,** on which are remains of the **Wansdyke,** and a large *British camp.* On the E. side of the hill are the **Hampton Rocks,** a noble cliff of the great oolite, affording an extensive panorama, wood and hill and stream.

(b) To **Prior Park** and **Combe Down.** On leaving Bath, the road passes **Widcombe Old Church,** with its ivy-mantled tower, built by Prior Bird (now quite insufficient for the population, for whom the Church of St. Mark, under Beechen Cliff, and that of St. Matthew, at the base of Widcombe Hill, have been built), and then commences the ascent of the fertile dell of Widcombe. Here is the *Abbey Cemetery*, a pretty spot, the grounds tastefully planted by the late Mr. Loudon in 1843, commanding one of the finest views of the city. **Prior Park** (so called as having belonged to the priors of Bath), is situated at the head of the vale, on a brow commanding a beautiful view. The mansion, a handsome Palladian structure, connected by arcades with its wings, is 400 ft. above the river and 100 ft. below the top of Combe Down.

It was built 1743 by Wood for *Ralph Allen* (d. 1764), the Allworthy of Fielding's "Tom Jones," born at St. Blazey, Cornwall, 1693, his father being a small innkeeper. He became a clerk in the Bath Post Office, then postmaster and mayor, and lessee of the cross-posts which he had established, the net profits of which amounted to £12,000 a year. He was the friend of Fielding, Pope, and, through the latter, of Bp. Warburton, who married his niece and occupied Prior Park after Allen's death. Pope, who corresponded with him, used to visit him at Prior Park, where he finished the "Dunciad," 1741. Pope disliked Bath, its "rocks, and dirt, and brimstone, and fogs," and declares in his letters that "health itself should not draw him thither, though friendship had once or twice." "I live," he says, "out of the sulphurous pit, at the edge of the pit, at Mr. Allen's, for a month or so."

The mansion at Prior Park was occupied from 1829 as a Roman Catholic college; but in 1836 the central part of it, which was Allen's residence, was gutted by fire. It is now a second time occupied as a Roman Catholic college. A magnificent Corinthian *Ch.* has been erected, decorated with Venetian mosaics. —Scoles, archt.

Behind are remains of the **Wansdyke,** which traversed the breezy upland of

Combe Down, 2 m., 550 ft. above the sea. On the S. side of this hill, which commands an extensive prospect, several villas have been lately built, and there is now quite a town, with *Church* and *Inn.* A path across two

fields leads to **Mount Pleasant,** where a beautiful landscape opens on the view. You look down upon the meeting of the Claverton, Freshford, and Midford valleys, and upon a hillside covered with wood. The canal winds below, and in the centre a long viaduct spans the valley. To the rt., by a clump of firs called Monument Field, are a tower, now ruinous, built in memory of Allen by Bp. Warburton (another fine point of view), and the sloping park of **Midford Castle,** a modern triangular building in a commanding position. At Midford is a station on the Somerset and Dorset line. In the far distance rises Alfred's Tower at Stourhead.

The now exhausted quarries on Combe Down formerly furnished the well-known *Bath freestone*, a variety of oolite, of which not only the abbey and houses of Bath are built, but many other public and private edifices in distant parts of the kingdom. The down, fields, and roads are undermined by caverns and passages.

Crossing the down, we can drop down on the prettily situated village of **Monkton Combe,** with its viaduct and aqueduct, and return by rly. from Limpley Stoke.

(c) To **Beckford's Tower, Stoke Brow,** and **Kelston Round Hill,** returning by **Weston.**

About 2½ m. beyond Mr. Beckford's tower, at the end of the unenclosed ground, is the **battlefield of Lansdown,** fought July 5th, 1643, between the forces of King Charles, led by the Marquis of Hertford, and those of the Parliament, under Sir William Waller, resulting in the complete defeat of the latter. Fuller says "it was disputed rather by parcels and piecemeals, and seemed not so much one entire battle as a heap of skirmishes huddled together." The spot, near the fourth milestone, is marked by a monument to the memory of Sir Bevil Grenville and his Cornish friends who fell here, erected by his grandson, George Granville, Baron Lansdowne, 1720. There are many traces of earthworks on the hill, and the high-road near the monument passes through a Roman camp. Lansdown Hill is now much enclosed, and the view from it, notwithstanding its elevation, is greatly impeded by the stone walls which hem in the road; but a walk of 2 m. from Beckford's Tower, or of 4 from Bath, will bring you to a spot on Upper Lansdown called **Prospect Stile,** from which may be seen at the same time both Bath and Bristol, the Avon and Severn, the Welsh mountains and the Mendip hills. It is on **Stoke Brow,** ½ m. to the S.W. of the pretty village of **North Stoke.**

On the road to the monument, and 1 m. beyond Beckford's Tower, we pass on the rt. **Chapel Farm,** which takes its name from the ancient hospital of St. Lawrence, founded for the reception of pilgrims on their road to Glastonbury. It was converted into a farmhouse in the reign of James I., but a Dec. window remains.

Below **Kelston Round Hill,** which is 730 ft. above the sea, lies

Kelston Park, 3 m. from Bath,

looking down on the Avon, winding through its green meadows, the property of Col. Inigo Jones. Near Kelston Church once stood a house built (1587) by Barozzi, an Italian architect, for *Sir John Harington*, the wit, poet, and favourite of his royal godmother, Queen Elizabeth. He married Etheldreda Malte, reputed to be the illegitimate daughter of Henry VIII., by whom he was granted the manor. It was pulled down 1760, with the exception of some outbuildings, which still remain. The present house, by Wood, was built by Sir Cæsar Hawkins, 1760. The *Ch.*, rebuilt 1860, preserves the old towers, the N. porch, and two piscinas. A fragment of a very early cross, with interlacing ornaments, which formerly stood in the churchyard, is placed inside, on the N. wall of the chancel. A curious representation of the Holy Rood is let into the jamb of the N. door.

In the churchyard of **Weston**, lying in a nook under Lansdown (the birthplace of St. Alphege, who gives his name to a spring of singular purity), an altar-tomb marks the burial-place of the widow of William Falconer, author of "The Shipwreck." The tower of the *Ch.* is good.

(d) To **Grenville's Monument** on Lansdown, returning by the pretty road from **Chapel Farm** to **Langridge**, and by **Swainswick**.

Langridge, 3 m. from Bath, has an ancient Manor House presenting an example, almost unique in this part of England, of a fortified "peel tower" of the 13th century. There are additions of the 16th century. The diminutive *Ch.*, one of the many said to be the smallest in England, measures only 50 ft. in length by 18 in breadth. The apse is modern. It is most picturesquely situated, and is also remarkable for a Norm. doorway and chancel arch, an early sculpture of the Virgin and Child, and an effigy of a lady, probably of the Walshe family, of early date, and 2 brasses of the same family.

Swainswick, 2½ m. from Bath, also has its Manor House, the birthplace of *William Prynne* (b. 1600), educated at the Bath Grammar School. The *Ch.* has a Norm. S. door; the tower and font are E.E. In the church is a fine brass to Edmond Ford, 1439, and there are monuments to Prynne's parents. Above the village rises the camp of **Solsbury**, 618 ft. above the sea, according to Prof. Earle "the venerable site of a well-inhabited and populous British city," or at least "the *arx* or burgh of the Avon valley and the city of Sul below"; and beyond it **Charmy Down**, where remains of a rude stone monument may be seen in a field behind the farmhouse.

Charlcombe, 2 m. from Bath, has a very diminutive *Ch.*, 51 ft. by 21 ft., with a western bellcot, Norm. S. door and font, and stone pulpit.

(e) Over Lansdown to the **Wick Rocks** (3 m. from the monument), a romantic wooded valley between limestone cliffs, which rise to a height of 200 ft., and are crowned on the N. side by an ancient camp. The geology and botany and scenery suddenly

differ here from all the country round. We have an island of mountain limestone, with a precipitous rift characteristic of that rock, and the vegetation peculiar to the soil. A camp of 12 acres, with a broad ditch and double rampart, covers the N. cliff.

(f) To **Batheaston** (2 m.) and **St. Catherine** (4½ m.). Batheaston *Ch.*, a Perp. building, contains a tablet to the Rev. J. T. Conybeare, the Anglo-Saxon scholar, for several years vicar of this parish. Near the village are the waterworks that partly supply the city with water. *Batheaston Villa* is memorable as the residence of Sir John and Lady Miller (d. 1781), renowned in the fashionable annals of Bath for an antique vase, within which were deposited every other Thursday the poetical effusions of the sons and daughters of fashion. The verses so deposited were drawn by a lady selected by chance, and read aloud. A committee was appointed to decide on their merits and adjudge the prizes for the four best productions, whose authors were each presented with a wreath of myrtle by Mrs., afterwards Lady, Miller. This custom was continued for some years, until a wicked beau polluted the chaste vase with a satirical or licentious poem, after which it remained closed. The Box tunnel is 3 m. N.E. 2½ m. the three counties of Wilts, Gloucester, and Somerset meet on **Bannerdown**, by the side of the high-road. For upwards of a century the spot had been marked by 3 small stones, but these were superseded by a cromlech, which was set up in 1858. Left of Batheaston, on the declivity of Holt Down, lies the village of

St. Catherine (4 m.), formerly a manor of the priors of Bath, whose *grange*, built by Prior Cantlow about 1499, is still standing in its terraced garden. Its porch, of the time of Charles I., and its beautiful hall-screen, bearing the arms of Henry VII., are much admired. The *Church*—also partly built by Cantlow—contains a finely carved pulpit, a Norman font, and, in the chancel, an altar-tomb, with effigies, to Wm. Blanchard and his lady, 1631. The return to Bath may be varied by a route over Charmy Down and Solsbury.

(g) To **Claverton,** a very pretty spot, and an agreeable drive of about 3 m. from Bath, passing the **Hampton Rocks,** a landslip of great oolite on the face of Hampton Down. On the bold projecting point of the down above is the entrenchment of Caer Badon, enclosing 30 acres.

The road also passes **Bathampton.** The *Church* has two fine effigies inside, and one of the most remarkable in England is built into the exterior of the E. wall—a figure standing in a circular-headed niche, holding a staff, all carved from a single block. It has been claimed as Roman; also as the figure of an abbess; also as that of John de Villula, Bishop of Bath A.D. 1090. This was the opinion of M. H. Bloxam (see his "Ecclesiastical Vestments").

(h) Another commanding point of view is **King's Down,** E. of Bathford, where the panorama

embraces the Cotswold Hills, the Wiltshire chalk downs from Swindon to Alfred's Tower, the range of the Mendips, and immediately below the beautiful valley of Claverton.

(i) To **Hinton Abbey** and **Farleigh Castle**. The quickest route is by rail to Freshford, from which the abbey is 1 m. and the castle 2 m. distant.

Farleigh Hungerford. The **castle** is picturesquely situated above a wooded ravine, called Danes' Ditch. It is a complete ruin, consisting of fragments of the wall, and of 2 towers and a gate-house. The general plan appears to have been an oval double court, with 4 towers at the angles of the inner court. Farleigh was for 300 years the chief mansion in Somersetshire of the Hungerfords, from 1369 to 1689, and had been previously held by the Montforts, by whom it was sold, 1337, to Bartholomew, Lord Burghersh, and by his son, 1369, to Sir Thomas Hungerford, of Heytesbury. It was converted into a castle in the reigns of Richard II. and Henry IV. by Sir Thomas Hungerford and his son Walter, High Treasurer of England in the reign of Henry VI. Leland asserts that it was built "by the prey of the Duke of Orleans, whom Sir Walter had taken prisoner." This must have been Charles, Duke of Orleans, who was captured at Agincourt, 1415. The Hungerfords were great supporters of the Lancasters in the wars of the Roses, "and in that cause liberally lost both their heads and their estates."—*Canon Jackson.* Farleigh was at one time given to George, Duke of Clarence. His daughter Margaret, the last of the Plantagenets, judicially murdered by Henry VIII., was born at the castle. She married Sir R. Pole, and had by him 4 sons, the youngest, Reginald, afterwards Cardinal Pole. In the Rebellion it was held for the King, though its owner, Sir Edward Hungerford, was commander of the Wilts forces for the Parliament. It surrendered 15th Sept., 1645. Sir Edward, his nephew, wasted his fortune in the dissolute court of Charles II., and was obliged to sell Farleigh. It was bought by Mr. Henry Bayntun, of Spye Park, who, with his wife, Lady Ann (Wilmot, sister of the Earl of Rochester), seems to have been the last who resided here. The castle was purchased by the Houltons in 1730.

The principal entrance to the Castle was to the S.E., where the ivy-clad shell of the gate-house remains. Over the arch of entrance is the sickle of the Hungerfords, and higher still a shield of their arms, with the initials "E. H." From the entrance a narrow moat, dammed up at either end, went half-way round; the castle being elsewhere protected by the steepness of the ground. On passing through the gate-house the visitor enters the *upper court*, containing the guard-room, stables, etc., and has before him, rt., the *chapel* and the 2 remaining of the 4 towers of the *lower* or *inner court*, where the habitable part of the castle was situated. The principal front faced E., rising directly from the edge of the

knoll. In one of these rooms the head of the family, temp. Henry VIII. (Sir Walter, afterwards Lord Hungerford of Heytesbury), imprisoned the last of his 3 wives, a daughter of Lord Hussey, of Sleaford, for 4 years. The unfortunate prisoner, in a still extant letter, thus states her forlorn case: "Here I have byn these 3 or 4 years past without comfort of any creature, and under the custodie of my Lord's Chaplain, which hath once or twice poysoned me. He hath promised my Lord that he would 'soon rid him of me,' and I am sure he intendeth to keep his promise; for I have none other meat nor drink but such as cometh from the said priest and brought me by my Lord's foole. So that I have been well-nigh starved, and sometimes of a truth should die for lacke of sustenance had not poore women of the country, knowing my Lord's demayne always to his wives, brought me to my great window, in the night, such meat and drink as they had, and gave me for the love of God; for money have I none wherewith to pay them, nor yet have had of my Lord these 4 years save four groats." This ill-conditioned husband was beheaded in 1540 for treasonable connivance at the Lincolnshire rebellion of 1536, for which his wife's father, Lord Hussey, had previously suffered death, as well as for other abominable crimes, and his lady found a second and, let us hope, a more amiable husband in Sir R. Throckmorton. She d. 1571.

The **Chapel of St. Leonard,** on the site of the original parish church within the inner court, has been preserved. The windows are Perp. In Grose's time it was half roofless, but was repaired in 1779 and again in 1806. Upon wooden bosses of the porch roof are the family coat and badge of 3 sickles interlaced. The altar-slab is a handsome block of breccia from Draycot, near Wells. A quantity of armour, together with a miscellaneous assortment of curiosities—jack-boots, stirrups, spurs, old keys, antique chairs, etc.—has found a resting-place here. A copy of a letter of Oliver Cromwell to his "honnoured ffriend Mr. Hungerford th' elder," dated July 30th, 1652, stolen in 1798, hangs in a frame on the S. wall. There is a northern addition, the wall of which has been painted with the coat armour of the alliances of the Hungerfords. The monuments are many and curious. (1) Beneath the arch opening into the side chapel are effigies of Sir Thomas Hungerford, the purchaser (d. 1398), and his wife Joan (d. 1412) on an altar-tomb; (2) in the centre of the outer chapel, to the W., an incised slab to a chantry priest; (3) in the S.E. corner of the same chapel an altar-tomb to Sir Walter Hungerford (d. 1596) and his son Edward: the inscription is curiously cut, and, on the further side, must be read backwards; (4) an altar-tomb in N.E. corner of side chapel to Sir Edward Hungerford (d. 1607) and Jane his first wife; (5) in N.W. corner an altar-tomb, standing N. and S., to Mrs. Mary Shaa, sister to Sir Edward Hungerford (d. 1613), with kneeling effigies; (6) in centre effigies of

Sir Edward Hungerford (d. 1648), commander of the Wilts forces under the Commonwealth and the besieger of Wardour Castle, and Margaret his wife (d. 1672). Beneath the chapel is the *vault*, where six corpses, with that of a baby, repose sheathed in coffins of lead. At the E. end of the chapel a house for the chantry priest, built by Walter, Lord Hungerford, 1430, still remains.

The **Parish Church** (St. Leonard's) was built by Walter, Lord Hungerford, and consecrated on the day of its patron saint, Nov. 6th, 1443. It is a plain Perp. edifice, with a tower at W. end terminated with a short spire. Over the S. door is a stone, probably brought from the older church, bearing the inscription—

"Muniat hoc templum cruce glorificans microcosmum,
Quæ genuit Christum miseris prece fiat asylum."

The windows of the chancel contain some remains of stained glass.

The present *Farleigh House* is an old manor-house refronted and modernized.

2 m. from Farleigh, 1 m. from Freshford Stat., by a pretty footpath, are the ruins of the Carthusian priory of *Hinton Charterhouse*, founded 1232 by Ela, Countess of Salisbury, in pursuance of the will of her deceased husband, William Longespée.

The remains consist chiefly of 2 very picturesque detached groups of buildings in the E.E. style, originally connected by a cloister. One group of buildings contains the *chapter-house*, of 3 vaulted bays, lighted by a triplet at the end and lancets in the side walls. It contains a trefoiled piscina with a fluted basin. Above the western part of this building are 2 bays of quadripartite vaulting rising from wall shafts on lovely corbels. To the N. of the chapter-house, between it and the *Ch.*, is a 2-storied building, the lower vaulted in 4 bays, on octagon piers, with a large fireplace in the western wall. The only fragment of the *Ch.* is a portion of the S. wall, exhibiting a trefoiled piscina and a noble clustered E.E. vaulted shaft. On the S. wall are the hook corbels of the cloister. The other group contains the vaulted *refectory*, with the usual 3 doors at the E. end and a very curious square serving-hatch at the S.W. angle, opening into the kitchen. Around are numerous old elms, and under the adjoining road an archway, from which there is a pretty path to Freshford. Among the monks of Hinton in the early part of the reign of Henry VIII. was Nicholas Hopkins, the "ghostly father" of Edward, the magnificent but weakly credulous Duke of Buckingham, the last of the noble line of Stafford, who by his false, forged prophecies, promising Buckingham, on the faith of a revelation of God, "that he should be a king and the progenitor of a line of kings," lured his unfortunate patron to destruction, May, 1521.

Hinton House (Hon. Mrs. Jones) was a manor house of the Hungerfords, built out of the ruins of the abbey.

(j) To **Midford, Combehay,** and **Wellow** (5 m.) [more con-

veniently reached by the Somerset and Dorset line to Radstock].

The road leaves Bath by the Fosseway, up *Holloway*, on which stand St. Mary Magdalene's Hospital and Chapel, rebuilt by Prior Cantlow, 1495, crosses over **Odd Down**, and passes on its summit some of the stone quarries and at the Cross Keys Inn a very good section of the **Wansdyke.** The *Ch.* of **South Stoke**, rt., has a Perp. tower and a Norm. doorway. 3 m. l. **Midford Castle.**

3½ m. **Midford.** Rt. 2 m., **Combehay Park**, and the village of **Combehay.** A hill of about 2 m., climbed by the Wansdyke, leads from the hamlet of Midford to Charterhouse-Hinton.

2 m. rt. of Charterhouse-Hinton, by the British **Ridge Way**, crossing the highest tableland in Somersetshire, commanding wide and varied views, is **Wellow**, 5 m. from Bath (Rte. 6).

(k) To **Englishcombe** and **Barrow Hill** (3 m.)—"English as against the Welsh on the other side of Wansdyke" (*Guest*)—a retired and pretty village, once the residence, according to Hoare ("History of Ancient Wilts"), of our Saxon kings, and afterwards of the bishops of Coutances. At a later period it was the site of a castle of the De Gournays, of which the mound and the fosse are still to be seen in the dell to the E. of it. Adjoining the church is a large buttressed *barn*, once belonging to the prior and monks of Bath, who here stored the tithes of their many parishes round. Near the barn are 2 whimsical yew-trees, which have grown into one during a long embrace. The *Ch.*, which has a central tower (Norm.) with later alterations, has a Norm. door and a fine Norm. arcade within. There is a curious effigy in the churchyard. In the orchard by the church the **Wansdyke** may be traced, but in the second field beyond the orchard it is in good preservation, running W.N.W., with the ditch on the N. side.

Barrow Hill (an outlier of the oolite) crowns a very elevated ridge of land, and is a conspicuous object in almost every view from Bath. The Duke of Monmouth bivouacked near this place on his way to Philip's Norton.

(l) To **Stantonbury Hill** (about 6 m. W.), a conspicuous outlier of the inferior oolite, capped by a very perfect camp, on the line of the Wansdyke. The entrenchment is of 30 acres, and commands a fine distant view of Bath. E. is *Newton Park* (the Earl Temple), and W. *Houndstreet Park*, once the residence of the Pophams of Littlecot. The panorama is complete, and includes the Welsh mountains. W.N.W. is Dundry Hill, W. by S. the Mendips, in the distant S.S.W. the town of Stourhead. Under the S. side of the hill lies the village of *Stanton Prior.*

(m) To *Stanton Drew* (11 m.), about 5 m. from Keynsham Stat. (Rte. 7.)

(n) To *Ditteridge*, or to *Chapel Plaster* and the Manor House of *S. Wraxall*, from Box Stat.

Resuming our route: on leaving Bath Stat. the line crosses the Avon upon a timber bridge, remarkable for its obliquity, its 2 arches being each as wide as the river. Close on rt. is the old town bridge; on l., high above, Holloway Hill and Beechen Cliff.

108¼ m. **Twerton** Stat., "possibly a condensation of *æt wær-tune*, 'the tower at the weir,' or *æt ofer-tune*, 'the town on the bank,' of the Avon."—*Prof. Earle.* On rt., on the Avon, are large cloth-mills, the representatives of those established by the monks of Bath in the 14th century. There is also a carpet manufactory. The *Ch.*, rebuilt, with the exception of the tower, 1839, has a Norm. doorway and font. *Fielding's Terrace* perpetuates the name of the author of "Tom Jones," part of which was written during his residence here.

Beyond this stat. the train enters the *Twerton tunnel*, driven in the new red sandstone, and then dashes through the *Newton cutting*, in excavating which was discovered the Roman pavement once preserved at the Keynsham Station, but subsequently removed to Bristol. It represented Orpheus charming the brutes.

110 m. l. is **Newton St. Loe**, a remarkably pretty and well-cared-for village. The *Ch.* stands on high ground with beautiful surroundings. The church is Perp., but has been restored with more cost than good taste. The S. arcade is ancient. In the churchyard is a fragment of an ancient cross.

Newton Park is the seat of the Earl Temple. The poet Southey was at school at *Corston*, to which he makes several allusions in his "Retrospect.' To the rt. is a pretty view, with the Avon winding through green meadows below, and *Kelston Round Hill* rising above, 730 ft. from the sea-level, commanding one of the finest prospects in the county.

111¼ m. **Saltford** Stat. A neat village, where is the ancient mansion of the Rodneys, with park-like meadows stretching to the Avon. A deep cutting in the lias leads to the *Saltford tunnel*, 499 ft. long, on emerging from which and crossing the river Chew, near its junction with the Avon, the line reaches

113¾ m. **Keynsham** Stat. Pop. 2811.

The *Ch.* (restored 1863), large and handsome, contains monuments of the 16th century to the Brydges, ancestors of the Dukes of Chandos, who had formerly a mansion here. The chancel is E.E., the tower of grand proportions, built in the reign of Charles II., the former tower, which stood on the N. side of the church, having been destroyed by lightning in 1634. There is an elaborate screen of the same period on the S. side, once stretching entirely across the E. end. E. of the church are the remains of the barn of the abbey of Austin Canons.

This town, according to tradition, was once the residence of St. Keyne, or Cenen, a British virgin, daughter of Braganus, Prince of Brecknockshire, who lived in a solitary wood infested with venomous serpents, which her prayers converted into stone, the ammonites of the neighbour-

ing quarries being popularly regarded as the result of her prayer. Here also, as the legend reports, the leprous King Bladud was hired as a swineherd, and hence he drove his pigs to the spring of Bath. At a later period Keynsham was celebrated for its abbey of Black Canons, founded by William, Earl of Gloucester, 1170; here the founder and many of his family were buried, as well as Jasper Tudor, Duke of Bedford, uncle of King Henry VII. There still remain some relics of this abbey and its dependencies in the curious *hostelry for pilgrims*, in the principal street, the *barn* by the church, and the Norm. gateway of the abbots' court-house at Queen Charlton, 2 m. l. Some curious incised slabs, bases of columns, and fragments of sculpture have been discovered on the site of the abbey. At the time of the dissolution its possessions, which were very considerable, were valued at £469 per annum. In the formation of the G.W. Rly. a Roman villa was discovered at Keynsham, with a tessellated pavement, which was removed to Bristol. Geo. Rodney Bridges, son of Sir Thomas Bridges, of Keynsham, was the second husband of the notorious Countess of Shrewsbury, who is said by Walpole to have held, disguised as a page, the horse of the Duke of Buckingham whilst he was fighting a duel with her husband, as described by Pepys under date Jan. 17th, 1667–8. The stone circles of *Stanton Drew* are about 5 m. to the l. of Keynsham.

[**Bitton**, W. of *N. Stoke* (with a stat. about 1 m. from the village on the Bath and Mangotsfield branch), is a pretty village, on a small lake or reservoir, which supplies water to several paper-mills. It is partly divided from Somerset by the river Avon. The *Ch.* is a remarkable one, and deserves careful examination. It was once cruciform, but has lost its transept. The nave, of very unusual length, 93 ft. 6 in., and, as first built, longer by the breadth of the tower, was originally Norm. of the 12th century, but with indications of a building of much earlier date having preceded it, which was not totally destroyed when the new church was erected. There are Norm. doors N. and S., and a Norm. corbel table on each wall. To the N. is the chantry of St. Catherine, built by Thomas of Bitton, Dean of Wells 1284 and Bishop of Exeter 1298, over the graves of his parents, and consecrated by the Bishop of Worcester in 1299. This has good trefoiled lancet windows, three very rich sedilia, and a piscina, and is altogether an excellent example of the date. The well-proportioned W. tower was erected within the nave, temp. Edward III., but is of Perp. character. The W. door has its hood mould terminated by the busts of Edward III. and Philippa. The chancel is Perp., with a groined roof, a large E. window of 5 lights, and well-proportioned sedilia. On the wall over the chancel arch are the remains of a very early sculptured crucifix. The church contains some fine monumental effigies. One, half raised, half incised, commemorates Sir Thomas of Bitton, of the 13th century. A slab with a floreated cross is to the memory of Emmote of Has-

tings. In the N. aisle are two small effigies, supposed to be of canons of Wells. The nave, roof, and seats are modern. There is a camp near the village, and some pretty scenery in the neighbourhood, particularly at **Hanham,** where the Avon flows between rocks for some distance. Here is a fine old grange-house, formerly belonging to the Abbot of Keynsham, now a private residence.]

Beyond this stat. commences a remarkable series of tunnels and cuttings. E. of **Brislington,** where the *Ch.* has a Norm. font, is a cutting through the freestone, with vertical sides. *Brislington tunnel*, 3148 ft. long, is carried through the shale and sandstone of the coal-measures, and ventilated by 4 shafts.

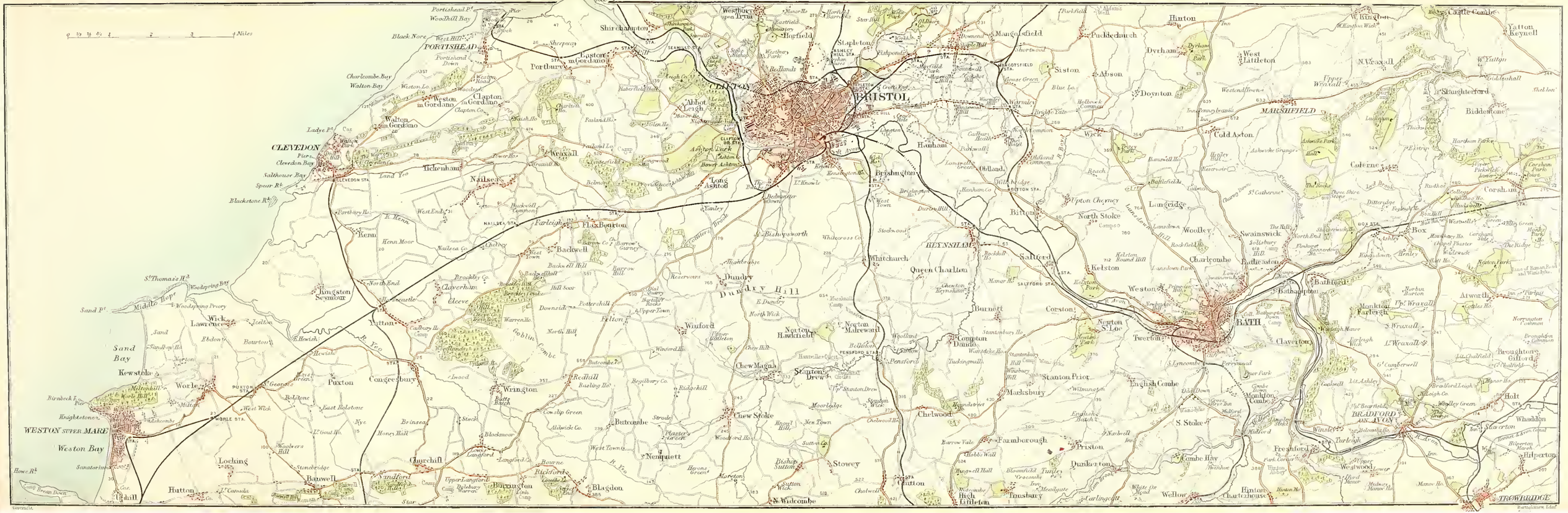
Emerging from the last tunnel is the new red sandstone, which here covers up the coal; the line crosses the Avon by a handsome Gothic bridge of stone, and amidst dust and smoke enters the suburb of Bristol.

118½ m. **BRISTOL** Stat., common also to the rlys. to Exeter and Gloucester. Pop. of the parliamentary borough 206,503. [Bristol is a great centre of land and sea communication. Railways branch out from it N.E. to Gloucester, S.W. to Exeter, E. to Bath; placing it in connection with the whole of the Midland, G. Western, and S.-Western systems of railways. Shorter lines run to the New Passage, and by crossing the Severn to S. Wales, to Avonmouth, and to Portishead for the Cardiff and Newport steamers. Steamers afford direct communication with S. Wales, N. Devon, and Ireland; and also run to Liverpool, Glasgow, London, Bordeaux, and Rotterdam.]

✲ **BRISTOL,** a city and county in itself, locally situated in the counties of Somerset and Gloucester, but chiefly in the latter, the capital of the west, and long the second city of Great Britain, stands in the valley of Avon, and on the slopes of the hills rising from the river just where it begins to be tidal. It was the centre of extensive commerce when Liverpool was unheard of, and was long the exclusive seat of the West India trade, and is still one of the chief resorts of our mercantile navy.

The early prosperity of the city was chiefly owing to the natural port afforded by the deep oozy beds of the Avon and the Frome, which here unite, and the ready communication afforded to the Bristol Channel, and thence to the open sea. In later times these natural advantages were increased by the proximity of extensive coalfields.

Tradition identified Bristol with Caer-Oder, "the City of the Chasm," mentioned in the Triads. But this story is pronounced by Dr. Guest to be fabulous. The foundation of the city has been assigned on little better grounds to the British king Dyfnwal Moelmyd, famous in Welsh legendary lore, c. 570, and his sons Bran and Beli, better known by their Latinised names Brennus and Belinus, whose statues are still posted on St. John's Gate. We know little of its history in Saxon times, but it evidently grew in wealth and prosperity, and had a mint in the time of Ethelred


BATH & BRISTOL
Miles
Avonmouth
Portishead
Pier
Woodhill Bay
Black Nore
PORTISHEAD
Shirehampton
Westbury upon Trym
Horfield
Stapleton
Easton in Gordano
Portbury
Charlcombe Bay
Walton Bay
Weston in Gordano
Clapton in Gordano
Abbot Leigh
CLIFTON
BRISTOL
Walton in Gordano
Ladye Pt.
CLEVEDON
Clevedon Bay
Salthouse Bay
Spear Rk.
Blackstone Rk.
Tickenham
Nailsea
Wraxall
Tone Ashton
Kenn
Kenn Moor
Nailsea Co.
Backwell
Farleigh
Flax Bourton
Bishopsworth
Whitchurch
Queen Charlton
Dundry
Dundry Hill
Winford
Norton Hawkfield
Norton Malreward
Chew Magna
Stanton Drew
Chew Stoke
Redhill
Wrington
Butcombe
Newtown
Stowey
Bishop Sutton
Chelwood
Farmborough
Priston
Dunkerton
Timsbury
Marksbury
Stanton Prior
Compton Dando
Burnett
Corston
Newton St. Loe
Twerton
BATH
Weston
Saltford
Keynsham
Brislington
Hanham
Longwell Green
Bitton
Upton Cheyney
North Stoke
Lansdown
Lansdowne
Charlcombe
Bathampton
Claverton
Batheaston
Swainswick
Lyncombe
Englishcombe
Monkton Combe
Limpley Stoke
Midford
S. Stoke
Combe Hay
Wellow
Hinton Charterhouse
Hinton
Dyrham
Puckeschurch
Siston
Abson
Doynton
West Littleton
Marshfield
Cold Aston
Wick
Lower Wraxall
Upper Wraxall
Castle Combe
Yatton Keynell
Biddestone
Slaughterford
Colerne
Corsham
Box
Ashley
Atworth
Broughton Gifford
Holt
Whaddon
Staverton
Bradford on Avon
Freshford
Hilperton
Trowbridge
Sand Bay
Kewstoke
Worle
Puxton
Congresbury
Wick St. Lawrence
Weston super Mare
Weston Bay
Locking
Hutton
Banwell
Churchill
Blagdon
Burrington
Brinsea
Yatton
Clevedon
Portishead
Pill
Avonmouth Dock Sta.
Ashley Hill Sta.
Mangotsfield Sta.
Clifton Sta.
Clifton Bridge Sta.
Bristol Temple Meads Sta.
Bedminster Sta.
Brislington Sta.
Keynsham Sta.
Saltford Sta.
Bath Spa Sta.
Bathampton Sta.
Avoncliff Sta.
Freshford Sta.
Bradford on Avon Sta.
Trowbridge Sta.
Yatton Sta.
Clevedon Sta.
Nailsea Sta.
Yeo R.
Chew R.
Avon R.
Somerset & Dorset Joint Rly.
Great Western Rly.
Midland Rly.
Bristol & North Somerset Rly.
Cheddar Valley & Yatton Rly.
Wrington Vale Light Rly.
Bristol & Exeter Rly.
Portishead Pier & Rly.
Clevedon Pier & Rly.
Weston, Clevedon & Portishead Light Rly.
Bristol Channel
Bristol Docks
Bristol Zoological Gardens
Clifton Suspension Bridge
Brandon Hill
Durdham Down
Clifton Down
Leigh Woods
Failand
Tickenham Hill
Nailsea Moor
Backwell Common
Chelvey
Brockley Combe
Cleeve
Cleeve Hill
Goblin Combe
Felton
Dundry Hill
Maes Knoll
Whitchurch Down
Stockwood
Hicks Gate
Keynsham Hams
Kelston Round Hill
Lansdown Hill
Bathampton Down
Claverton Down
Combe Down
Smallcombe Vale
Midford Brook
Limpley Stoke Valley
Cam Brook
Wellow Brook
Somerset Coal Canal
Kennet & Avon Canal
Avon Navigation
Bristol Channel
Kenn Moor
Nailsea Co.
Brockley Co.
Barrow Gurney
Chew Valley Lake
Blagdon Lake
Cheddar Reservoir
Yeo Reservoir
Chew Valley
Blagdon
Cheddar
Axbridge
Wedmore
Wells
Shepton Mallet
Frome
Radstock
Midsomer Norton
Paulton
Keynsham
Saltford
Bath
Bradford on Avon
Melksham
Trowbridge
Devizes
Marlborough
Calne
Chippenham
Corsham
Box
Bristol
Clevedon
Portishead
Weston super Mare
Yatton
Nailsea
Backwell
Pill
Avonmouth
Severn Estuary

II. (987–1016). At the time of the Domesday Survey it was rated higher than any town, save London, York, and Winchester. In 1088 Bristol was held by Godfrey, Bishop of Coutances, in favour of Duke Robert against William Rufus, on whose defeat it was conferred by the Red King on Robert Fitz Haymo, his companion on his fatal hunting in the New Forest, whose daughter Matilda, by marriage, carried the lordship to Robert, Earl of Gloucester, bastard son of Henry I. He erected the *Castle*, c. 1126, on the isthmus between the rivers Avon and Frome to the E., commanding the entrance to the town, and overawing the burghers. The castle was built with stone imported from Caen, the tithe of it being devoted by "the Red Earl" to the Priory of St. James, which he had recently founded. One of the first occupants of the castle was Duke Robert, who was entrusted by Henry I. to his son's keeping. From Bristol he was transferred to Cardiff, where he died. The fortress was hardly completed before it was invested by the forces of Stephen. The Earl of Gloucester was the chief champion of the Empress Maud in her claim to the English throne, and Bristol consequently became the headquarters of her party, whence they spread rapine, devastation, and acts of cruelty and licence all round. On the capture of Stephen at the battle of Lincoln, 1141, he was marched across England to Bristol, and imprisoned in the castle, where he was, it is said, loaded with chains in consequence of his attempts to escape. After 9 months' captivity he was exchanged for the Earl of Gloucester, who had been captured at Stockbridge, after raising the siege of Winchester, the Queen and her son being detained as hostages at Bristol till the completion of the exchange. Maud placed her young son, afterwards Henry II., in Bristol Castle, where he resided 4 years, 1142–46, under the care of his uncle, the Earl of Gloucester, "whose instruction," says Lord Lyttelton, "laid the foundation of all that was afterwards most excellent in him."

In 1247 the first bridge was erected over the Avon. It was mentioned in a charter of Henry III. The building of this bridge, by the union of the city with the suburb of Redcliffe, greatly increased its prosperity, which was also advanced by the erection of the Priory of St. James, in 1130, and the Monastery of St. Augustine, now the Cathedral, by Robert Fitzhardinge, in 1142, and the gathering of inhabitants round them. King John having married Isabella, the daughter of the Earl of Gloucester, the "lady of Bristowe," his visits became frequent, and to him is due the charter which laid the foundation of the franchises of the city. The castle in interchange with Corfe was the place of the long, dreary imprisonment of his niece Eleanor, "the Damsell of Brittaine," Prince Arthur's sister, from 1202–40. She was annually brought out and shown to the people, to do away with the only too natural suspicions of foul play. This, perhaps, was also the scene of the compulsory tooth-drawing of which unlucky Jews, some brought hither from Southampton, were the subjects. One, it is said, was sentenced to lose a tooth every day until he paid John 10,000 marks, and gave in after the loss of 7. In 1216 the boy-king Henry III. kept his Christmas in the castle, as did his son, Edward I., in 1285, who, when Prince of Wales, had besieged and taken it after the battle of Evesham, 1265. It was the

scene of a royal marriage in 1293, when his daughter Eleanor espoused the Earl of Bar.

In the next reign Bristol played a conspicuous part in the disgraceful events of which the King's love of favourites was the cause. Hardly was Edward II. seated on the throne than he accompanied Gaveston here, 1308, when he was about to set sail for Ireland, of which he had been appointed governor. In 1312 "the Great Insurrection" took place, and Bristol was held by Lord Badlesmere, the custos of the castle, and the burgesses, for 3 years against the King, and was finally taken in 1316. In 1320 the castle and town were granted to the reigning favourite, the younger Despenser; and in 1326 received the fugitive monarch, who had fled hither, pursued by the execrations of the whole kingdom, and here took shipping with his favourite for Lundy, on his way to Ireland. The castle was held by the elder Despenser, and was besieged and taken by Isabella. Despenser, in spite of his venerable age of 90 years, suffered the savage death of a traitor, and was gibbeted in complete armour for 4 days, when his body was given to the dogs. The council of the nation sat in the castle, and, after summoning the King to his post, proclaimed Prince Edward guardian of the realm left without a ruler. The next year, 1327, saw the unhappy King once more at Bristol, on his way from his prison at Corfe to the place of assassination at Berkeley, to which he was removed under cover of night, April 5th, in consequence of a plan of some of the burgesses, moved with pity for their dethroned monarch, to aid him in escaping beyond sea. In 1348 Bristol was visited by the Black Death. Richard II. visited Bristol in 1399 on his way to Ireland, when a trial of battle between 2 Scots took place, in which the appellant was defeated and hanged. The year 1400 saw another political tragedy, when Despenser, Earl of Gloucester, and Lord Lumley, who, on the explosion of the conspiracy for the restoration of Richard II., had ridden as far as Bristol, were seized by the populace and beheaded at the High Cross. In 1446 Henry VI. visited the city, on which he conferred a new charter. He was lodged at the Hospital of St. John Baptist, near Redcliffe Church. Edward IV. was at Bristol in 1461, and glutted his vengeance by witnessing from the E. window of St. Ewen's Church, hard by the High Cross, the Lancastrian partisan Sir Baldwin Fulford and his two companions led to execution. As one of the chief cities of his realm, Bristol was visited by Henry VII. not long after his accession, 1486. He was met by the Mayor and Corporation at Redfield, entered the city at Lawford's Gate, and passing the High Cross, where the clergy in their robes were waiting for him, was conducted with great state to St. Augustine's. Four years later the King paid another visit, when, not content with a present of £500, he fined every inhabitant worth £20, "because their wives went too fine." Elizabeth was at Bristol in 1574, and was welcomed at the Cross by Fame, "very orderly set forth by an excellent boy." On the way to her lodgings, "at Mr. John Young's, on St. Augustine's Back," "Salutation, Gratulation, and Obedient Goodwill," were awaiting her at the gate. On the Sunday she went to the cathedral "to hear a Sarmond, and an imme was sung by a very fine boy." In 1612 Anne of Denmark paid Bristol a visit, and occupied the same lodgings. Her reception gratified her so much that she said "she

never knew she was queen till she came to Bristol."

During the Civil Wars of the 17th century Bristol played a prominent part. It was alternately in the power of either party, but ultimately became the chief Royalist stronghold in the west; and its surrender by Prince Rupert, 1645, was one of the greatest blows Charles's cause received in those parts. In 1642, in preparation for the struggle, the walls and gates were restored, and forts built on Brandon Hill and St. Michael's Hill. The feeling of the citizens was divided, and on Essex marching to take possession of the city, Dec. 5th, 1642, the gates were shut against him, but were opened to him on the importunity of the women; but his riotous conduct proved so offensive that in Feb., 1643, Col. Nat. Fiennes marched in and replaced him as governor. The following month a plot was formed to open the gates to Prince Rupert and his brother Maurice; but it was discovered and frustrated the night of its intended accomplishment, March 7th. The two heads of the plot, Yeomans and Bouchier, suffered the death of traitors at the Nag's Head, in Wine Street. This execution so exasperated the citizens that they invited the King to lay siege to the city; and accordingly Prince Rupert, with 20,000 men, appeared before it July 22nd, and commenced the assault the next day. Three days later it capitulated, for which the King, who was at Oxford, ordered public thanksgivings, and started with his sons Charles and James to Bristol, where he arrived Aug. 3rd, and was lodged at Colston House, in Small Street. Two years later, Sept. 11th, 1645, Bristol was stormed by Fairfax, to the grievous discomfiture of the royal cause in the west. "Prince Rupert rode out of Bristol amid seas of angry human faces, glooming unutterable things on him; growling audibly, in spite of his escort, 'Why not hang *him?*' For indeed the poor Prince had been necessitated to much plunder." — *Carlyle.* His reception by his royal uncle was not more cheering, for he spoke of its surrender as "the greatest trial of inconstancy that has yet befallen me," and ordered the Prince to "seek subsistence beyond sea." Their new masters did not gain the goodwill of the citizens. The licentiousness of the soldiery under General Skippon was intolerable, especially when in 1647 they seized on one of the aldermen, and refused to release him until they had received a month's pay and indemnity for their act. Cromwell himself visited Bristol in 1649 on his way to Ireland, returning after his bloody campaign in 1650. The next year, after the battle of Worcester, Charles II. rode through the city in disguise on his way to the south coast; the same year Ireton's body was brought from Ireland, and received by the authorities of the city in state. The castle was "slighted" by order of Cromwell in 1655. In 1658, Richard Cromwell visited the city from Bath, and was received with great pomp, as was Charles II., who, in 1663, came over from the same place with his queen, James, Duke of York, and Prince Rupert, the last-named not over-willing, one would think, to see a place connected with so much disgrace to his character as a commander. In 1685, the year of Monmouth's rebellion, Bristol contained many of his partisans, who were with difficulty restrained from an insurrection by the Duke of Beaufort, when Monmouth was known to be at hand with designs upon the city, which he was unwillingly forced to relinquish. In Jeffreys's "Bloody

Assize" three rebels were executed here. The next year James II. was here with his son-in-law, George of Denmark, and touched for the king's evil, leaving it for Sedgemoor to view the scene of the battle. William and Mary visited the city in 1689, and William alone on his return from Ireland in 1690, and Queen Anne in 1702.

The most noteworthy event in modern times was the disgraceful riot which broke out on October 31st, 1831, during the violent excitement that accompanied the progress of the first Reform Bill, when, chiefly in consequence of a want of ordinary firmness in the civil and military authorities, the whole city was at the mercy of a furious rabble for nearly two days, and two sides of Queen Square, including the Mansion House and Custom House, as well as the Bishop's palace, gaol, and Bridewell, were burnt down, and property to an immense amount destroyed.

The commercial importance of Bristol dates from a very early period. William of Malmesbury describes it as "full of ships from Ireland, Norway, and every part of Europe, which brought hither great commerce and much foreign wealth." In the "Gesta Stephani" it is spoken of as "almost the richest of all the cities of the country, receiving merchandize from neighbouring and foreign places in ships under sail." This brings before us one of the chief local advantages of Bristol as a port, that, owing to the tidal river and its soft oozy bottom, vessels were able to come into the heart of the city, and unload their cargoes at the quays under the merchants' windows. From a very early period Bristol was the market of the English slave-trade, as, many centuries later, it was one of the chief centres of that from Africa. From this shameful traffic the prosperity of the town began. The slaves were captured in Wales or bought in England, and exported to Ireland, which is described as being full of English slaves. This infamous commerce was at last checked by the earnest preaching of Wulstan, the Bishop of Worcester, to which diocese Bristol then belonged. The connection with Ireland continued. Dermot, King of Leinster, being expelled by his subjects, took refuge here c. 1170. A charter of Henry II., 1172, assigned the city of Dublin, then almost drained of its inhabitants, to the men of Bristol, and an English colony was transplanted thither. Bristol was also the centre of mediæval mercantile maritime adventure. In 1497, under a patent granted by Henry VII., John Cabot and his son Sebastian sailed from Bristol in the *Matthew*, and on June 24th discovered the mainland of America. In 1498 a fleet sailed under Sebastian Cabot, which explored the N. American coast from Newfoundland to Florida, of which John Guy was the first colonist, and Robert Thorne, both Bristol men, the first to form a commercial settlement in the newly discovered continent. Bristol has also been no less famous for its manufactures. The woollen manufacture was introduced in 1340, its chief seat being in Temple and Tucker Streets. Among the manufacturers Thomas Blanket is conspicuous, who is said to have given his name to that comfortable article of domestic economy. The first brass made in England was in 1705, at the Baptist Mills, by workmen brought from Holland, the copper being smelted by Sir Simon Clark. The production of zinc commenced in 1743, at Hanham-on-Avon, 2 m. from Bristol. From its being the chief

seat of the West India trade, the manufacture of sugar was early established, and has only recently been discontinued through foreign competition. There were also early manufactories of glass and shot. Bristol was, as early as the time of Richard I., the only seat of the manufacture of soap. "Yea," says Fuller, "after London meddled with the making thereof, Bristol soap was found much cheaper." At the present time its manufactories, which are much assisted by the abundant supply of coal close at hand, are very extensive, including glass works, potteries, soaperies, tanneries, chemical works, copper, lead, and shot works, iron works and foundries, manufactories of anchors, chain cables, and edge tools, machine works, and cotton mills. The shoe factories engage numerous hands. Fry's chocolate works, though not generally open to inspection, are among the most extensive manufactories of the city. Tobacco is also an important manufacture. Bristol is also a great seat of the wool trade, and the Irish provision trade. Its connection with the West Indies and West Africa, though not of such importance as it once was, still causes a large import trade of sugar, rum, molasses, hemp, fruits, &c. There are few places of greater attraction to a traveller who takes an interest in the manufactures and trade of the country, or where, if provided with proper introductions, he can spend a few days more agreeably and profitably.

"Bristol, more truly Brightstow," says Fuller, "is *bright* in the situation thereof, conspicuous on the rising of a hill; *bright* in the buildings, fair and firm; *bright* in the streets, so cleanly kept as if scoured, where no carts but sledges are used; but chiefly *bright* for the inhabitants thereof, having bred so many eminent persons."

The following sketch from the brilliant pen of Macaulay portrays Bristol as it was at the latter part of the 17th century:—"Large as Bristol might then appear, it occupied but a very small portion of the area on which it now stands. A few churches of eminent beauty rose out of a labyrinth of narrow lanes built upon vaults of no great solidity. If a coach or a cart entered these alleys, there was danger that it would be wedged between the houses, and danger also that it would break in the cellars. Goods were therefore conveyed about the town almost exclusively in trucks drawn by dogs; and the richest inhabitants exhibited their wealth, not by riding in gilded carriages, but by walking the streets with trains of servants in rich liveries, and by keeping tables loaded with good cheer. The pomp of the christenings and burials far exceeded what was seen at any other place in England. The hospitality of the city was widely renowned, and especially the collations with which the sugar refiners regaled their visitors. The repast was dressed in the furnace, and was accompanied by a rich brewage made of the best Spanish wine, and celebrated over the whole kingdom as Bristol milk. This luxury was supported by a thriving trade with the North American plantations and with the West Indies. The passion for colonial traffic was so strong, that there was scarce a small shopkeeper in Bristol who had not a venture on board of some ship bound for Virginia or the Antilles. Some of these ventures, indeed, were not of the most honourable kind. There was, in the Transatlantic possessions of the Crown, a great demand for labour, and this demand was partly supplied by a system of crimping and kidnapping at the principal English seaports. No-

where was this system found in such active and extensive operation as at Bristol. Even the first magistrates of that city were not ashamed to enrich themselves by so odious a commerce. The number of houses appears, from the returns of the hearth money, to have been, in the year 1685, just five thousand three hundred. We can hardly suppose the number of persons in a house to have been greater than in the city of London; and in the city of London we learn from the best authority that there were then fifty-five persons to ten houses. The population of Bristol must therefore have been about twenty-nine thousand souls." — *Macaulay's* "History of England," vol. i.

The city was originally built on a peninsula of rising ground nearly surrounded by the rivers Avon and Frome, and occupied an oval walled area, the form of which may still be traced by the curved line of the lanes which mark the contour of the walls and ditch. The **Castle**, "slighted" by Cromwell, occupied the neck of ground between the 2 rivers to the E., filling a space nearly as large as the old town itself, and commanding all the approaches to it from that quarter. The neighbourhood of the castle was far from being agreeable to the quiet burghers, who were continually complaining to the King of the levying of unjust tolls, the capture of their goods, and other acts of oppression perpetrated by the occupiers of the fortress. The river Frome, in Norm. times, after washing the N. wall, took a bend to the S., and flowed along the line of Baldwin Street, and joined the Avon some distance E. of its present mouth, close to St. Nicholas' Church. The wall was pierced by 4 principal gates, a church standing at each, and traversed by 2 main streets. At their intersection stood the High Cross (now at Stourhead, Rte. 12), with 3 more churches at the angles of the central area, and the Guildhall hard by. The 4 streets thus formed were, and are still, known as *High Street*, from the S.; *Broad Street*, from St. John's Gate, N.; *Corn Street*, from St. Leonard's Bridge or Blind Gate, W.; and *Wine* (or Winch) *Street*, from Newgate, (where was the city prison), E. Corn Street, now the most busy and imposing thoroughfare in Bristol, and the seat of its chief commercial buildings, was almost closed at its W. end by a small low gate beneath St. Leonard's Church. This was demolished in 1771, and the street was continued to the quay, under the name of *Clare Street* (in honour of Robert Nugent, Earl of Clare, then member for the city). This was followed in 1775 by the formation of *Park Street* in what was known as "the Bullocks' Park," mounting the steep hill from College Green, which opened a free communication between the city and its western suburbs.

The **Castle**, so long one of the chief strongholds of the west, was dismantled and its fortifications demolished by order of Parliament in 1655. *Castle Gate*, leading from the city, was taken down 1766. The exterior walls and bastions still remain in the midst of modern structures, to the N. and E., where the names *Broad Weir* and *Castle Mill Street* tell

of the time when the Frome, now running underground, expanded into a broad mill-head. Some remains may be hunted up by the determined antiquary, at the farther end of the **Castle Green**, the platform of the rising ground on which the Castle stood, down a turning to the l. The 13th-century vaulted porch to the King's Hall still remains, in a degraded condition.

The first stone **Bridge** over the Avon was built in 1247 (a wooden one had preceded it), the same year in which the Frome was diverted to its present channel. The present bridge was erected in 1768. The more ancient streets were built on arched drains, or "gowts" (Fr. *égouts*); and for a long time the apprehension of disturbing the masonry of these sewers kept all wheeled vehicles out of the city. As late as 1820, Cooke writes in his "Itinerary," "heavy carts are not admitted into this city for fear of damaging the arches of the vaults that are made underground for carrying off the soil into the rivers, so that the constant draught is by sledges, which renders the pavement in the highway exceeding slippery."

Nearly all the older streets of Bristol contain picturesque gabled houses, affording studies for the sketcher, which will repay the researches of anyone who is careless of the smells, sights, and sounds he may encounter. The best route for anyone anxious to see old Bristol is to go a short distance down Wine Street and turn l. into the **Pithay**, a narrow steep street, until recently full of picturesque houses, which diverges into **Tower Lane**, and preserves the curved contour of the city walls, smoke-blackened fragments of which peep out continually among the quaint, dilapidated houses. A postern arch will be passed rt., and **St. John's Church** reached, standing actually on the wall, with its tower pierced by the city gate. Passing under this we enter **Christmas Street**, once one of the chief thoroughfares of the city, through which Queen Elizabeth and Anne of Denmark passed with all the pomp of royalty. The entrance of **St. Bartholomew's Priory** should be noticed rt. It is a porch with external and internal archways of Dec. and Early Eng. work, and a statue at the W. corner. Some small fragments of the Priory remain in the warehouse behind. **Christmas Steps** should now be ascended; they form a steep climb from the lower part of the city towards **St. Michael's Church**, whose tower rises conspicuously above. At the top of the steps 2 rows of stone niches form seats for the weary. Overhanging the steps to the l. are **Foster's Almshouses**, founded, temp. Henry VII., by a merchant of Bristol. The chapel is original, but was modernized when the almshouses were rebuilt, 1702. It has the rare dedication of "the Three Kings of Cologne."

The ***Cathedral** is the first object to which the visitor will be inclined to direct his steps. This stands locally in Gloucestershire, but civilly in the county of the city of Bristol, on elevated ground rising from the rivers Frome and Avon.

The monastery, the church of which afterwards became the cathedral of Bristol, was founded, for Augustine canons, c. 1142, by Robert Fitzhardinge, who subsequently became Lord of Berkeley. Its site, on the right bank of the Avon, and on the highest ground close outside the walls of Bristol, was traditionally that of Augustine's oak, the great tree under which it was said the founder of the English Church met the British Christians in solemn conference. Fitzhardinge became a canon of his own monastery, and died here in 1170. His descendants, the powerful barons of Berkeley, who were liberal benefactors to all the religious houses in the neighbourhood of their castle, continued the especial patrons of this monastery, and many of them were interred in its church. St. Augustine's was raised to the dignity of a mitred abbey, under the rule of John Snow (1332–41). It was surrendered, among the greater abbeys, in 1538; and in 1542, when Bristol was included among the five new sees created by Henry VIII., its church became the cathedral of the new diocese, and the monastic buildings were assigned as residences to the bishop, the dean, and the chapter of canons. Bristol had hitherto been in the far-reaching diocese of Worcester. The liberty of the city, which embraced a considerable district, and the county of Dorset (up to this time in the diocese of Salisbury, to which it has now been restored), were assigned to the new see. The see was united to that of Gloucester in 1836, the bishop being elected by the chapters alternately. This arrangement terminated in 1897, when Bristol again became the seat of a separate see, embracing Bristol city, the two deaneries of S. Gloucester, and the three of N. Wilts, with one or two Somersetshire parishes adjoining Bristol.

The first bishop of Bristol was Paul Bush, Master of the College of Bonhommes at Edingdon, deprived by Queen Mary, as a married man, 1554. Among the bishops of this see, which was one of the poorest in England, giving rise to frequent translations to richer sees, may be noticed *Fletcher* (tr. 1593), afterwards Bishop of Worcester and London, father of the dramatist, who, as Dean of Peterborough, troubled the last hours of Mary Queen of Scots by his exhortations to change her faith (d. 1596). *Lake*, the Nonjuror (tr. 1685), one of "the Seven Bishops," as was his successor, Trelawny (tr. 1689), the subject of the Cornish rhyme :—

> "And shall Trelawny die?
> There 's twenty thousand Cornish men
> Will know the reason why."

Butler (tr. 1750), the author of "The Analogy of Religion," one of the most deservedly honoured names in the English Church. *Newton* (d. 1782), the editor and biographer of Milton, and author of a well-known work on the Prophecies, and the learned *Kaye* (tr. to Lincoln 1827).

The church, as finished by Fitzhardinge, consisted of a nave with N. and S. aisles, a central tower with N. and S. transepts, a presbytery with N. and S. aisles, and a procession path at the E. end. To this original

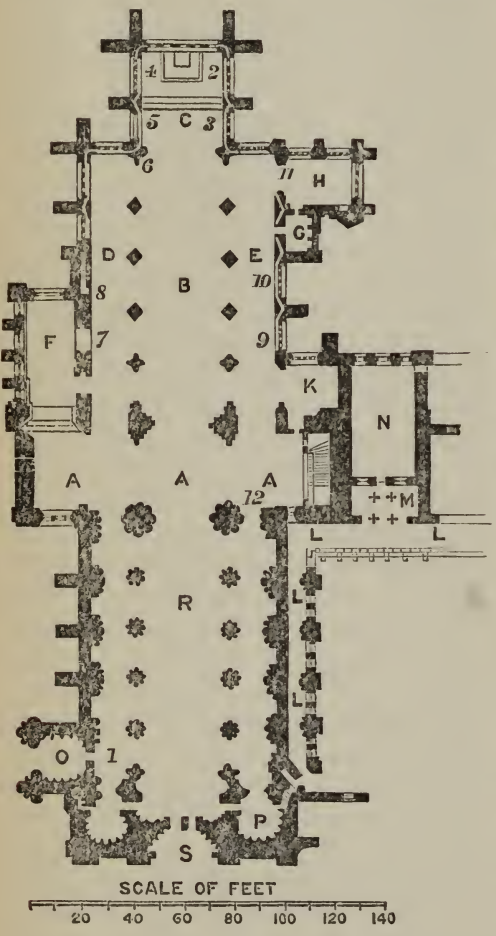
church—of which the only remains are in the walls of the transepts, and choir, and the piers of the crossing, the chapter-house, and vestibule—some additions were made during the E.E. period, including the Elder Lady Chapel, and portions of the N. transept; and during the abbacy of *Edmund Knowle* (1306–32) the Norm. choir was replaced by that which now exists. After the completion of the choir, it is evident that it was contemplated — probably by the same architect — to rebuild the nave. It is perfectly clear, however, from the position of the 15th-century cloister, and other evidence, that the work was only commenced, never completed. The chapels on the S. side of the choir were probably added in the time of Knowle's successor, Abbot *Snow* (1332–41); to whom must also perhaps be attributed the Dec. work of the transepts. The central tower, as it now appears, was the work of Abbot *Newbury* (1428–63); Abbot *Newland* (1481 to 1515) added the groined roof to the N. transept. The vaulting of the S. transept was completed by Abbot *Elliot* (1515–26).

Bristol Cathedral has been too much underrated, and will reward careful study. The Norm. and Dec. portions are of unusual value and interest. The peculiar vaulting of the choir-aisles and the richly decorated monumental recesses in the work of Abbot Knowle may be regarded as the specialities of this cathedral, to which "justice has never been done either in an æsthetic or historical point of view."—*A.E.F.*

The exterior of the cathedral is comparatively uninteresting, although its smoke-stained walls contrast well with the trees of St. Augustine's Green. The only general views to be obtained are from St. Augustine's (or the Upper College) Green. From the Lower Green there is a good view of the tower, with the whole of the transept and new nave. A fine view of the whole length of the S. side, including the monastic buildings, is obtained from the Coronation Road.

In the years 1861-64 an extensive series of restorations was carried on within the cathedral, under the superintendence of Messrs. Pope & Bindon, local architects. The first stone of a new nave was laid in April, 1868, and the work was vigorously carried on by a lay committee in conjunction with the Dean and Chapter, from the designs of the late Mr. Street, and was brought to a completion in 1877, when it was opened for service Oct. 23rd. The new nave carries on the idea of Abbot Knowle's choir, with some slight modifications which distinguish the new work from the old. It consists of six bays, and is 120 ft. long, 69 ft. broad, and 56 ft. high internally (externally 65). In the second bay from the W. there is a noble gabled porch, with a parvis over, the gift of Mr. Killigrew Wait. Statues of the Evangelists stand on either side of the arched doorway, the space above which is filled with a bas-relief of the Adoration of the Magi. The design for the western façade includes 2 towers, that to the N. designed to commemorate Bp. Butler; these were completed by Pearson in 1888. The centre is

occupied by a very lofty, deep-set portal, to be eventually enriched with sculpture, above which is a rose window of 12 lights. The gable of the roof is concealed by a range of horizontal panelling. The side walls of the nave are divided by tall, plain buttresses, from the W. end of the aisles across the chancel to the E. is one of singular effectiveness. The lofty arches are supported on clustered pillars of Doulting stone 25 ft. high, with attached shafts of blue lias. The capitals are carved in foliage. The vault-



REFERENCES.

A.A.A. Tower and Transept.
B. Choir.
C. Chancel or Sacrarium.
D. North Choir-aisle.
E. South Choir-aisle.
F. Elder Lady Chapel.
G. Ante-chamber to Berkeley Chapel.
H. Berkeley Chapel.
K. Newton Chapel.
L. Cloister.
M. Vestibule of Chapter-house.
N. Chapter-house.
O. North Porch.
P. Butler Tower and Baptistery.
R. Nave.
S. West Portal.

1. North Entrance.
2. Sedilia.
3. Monument of Abbot Newland.
4. Monument of Abbot Newbury.
5. Monument of Abbot Hunt.
6. Monument of Bishop Bush.
7. Monument of Maurice, Lord Berkeley, and Wife.
8. Stairs to Triforium and Tower.
9. Monument of Thomas, Lord Berkeley.
10. Monument of second Maurice, Lord Berkeley.
11. Monument of second Thomas, Lord Berkeley.
12. Doorway to Cloister.

similar to those of the choir, between which are very lofty windows with varied tracery of Dec. character. Small flying buttresses and a pierced parapet are a pleasing variation of Abbot Knowle's design.

Entering by the N. porch, the effect of space and majestic harmony is very striking. The view ing, both of the nave and aisles — the latter of very singular design (see *post*)—is of the same general design as that of the choir and its aisles. Monumental recesses of the same character as those in the choir, but varied in design, break the wall beneath each of the windows. The base of the S.W. tower forms the

baptistery containing the font, the whole cost of which has been borne by the family of the late Bp. Monk. The wall arcades of this portion are very beautiful. Many of the windows are filled with stained glass, all by Messrs. Hardman. The N.E. sepulchral arch of the nave is occupied by a recumbent effigy of Dean Elliot (*ob.* 1891), and in the S. aisle there is a bust of Muller, the artist.

Passing eastwards we enter the transepts and crossing, which occupy the exact site of those of the Norm. church, the original walls having been to a great extent retained in Abbot Snow's recasting of the structure.

"The Norm. work of the N. transept is confined to the coursed masonry below the E. E. jambs of the great N. window, and possibly the core of the buttresses." In the S. transept the Norm. work is more extensive, but is chiefly visible on the exterior. Inside the transept a "Norm. cushion-shaped corbel may be seen, at the S.W. angle, supporting the later capital of the Perp. vaulting."

Some part of the N. transept was rebuilt during the E. E. period, after the construction of the Elder Lady Chapel. The shafted jambs of the great N. window are evidently of this style. The tracery was inserted in 1704. This work may be assigned to Abbot *Long* (1237–64).

Both transepts were altered during the Dec. period, probably by Abbot *Snow* (1332–41). Abbot *Newland* (1481–1515) constructed the groined roof of the N. transept and the arches opening to the nave-aisles. The rich lierne vaulting of the S. transept, which springs at a higher level than any of the rest, is assigned to Abbot *Elliot* (1515–26). The S. transept still contains the staircase which led to the canons' dormitory.

The lower part of the tower-piers, "although transformed to something like the character of Perp. work, are Norm. in plan."

Many of the monuments with which the walls of the transepts were encumbered have been removed into the cloisters and the lay-clerks' vestry. Among these may be mentioned a monument for several members of the *Porter* family, including Jane and Anna Maria, the well-known novelists; a monument by *Bacon* for *Mrs. Draper* (the "Eliza" of Sterne's letters), d. 1778. The figures on each side of the urn represent "Genius" and "Benevolence"; a medallion for the *Rev. John Eagles* (author of "The Sketcher," and translator of Homer's Hymns), "Scholar, Painter, and Poet, b. at Bristol 1784, d. 1855"; and one for the father and mother of *Macready*, the tragedian; a monument for Cowper's *Lady Hesketh*, who d. at Clifton in 1807; a tablet for *Mary Anne Schimmelpenninck*. In the S. transept are—a very pretty small tablet by *Tyley*, of Bristol, for 3 children of *R. Walwyn, Esq.*; a memorial for *William Phillips*, subsacrist, who prevented the mob of rioters from profaning the cathedral in 1831; a monument by *Chantrey* for *Mrs. Crawfurd*, with some fine medallion heads on the upper part; and against the E. wall a monument for Bp. *Butler* (d. 1752), designed by *Fripp*, of Bristol, with an inscription by Southey. On the W.

wall of the N. transept are monuments to the late *Miss Carpenter* (d. 1877), the earnest labourer in the cause of the education of the lower ranks; *Miss Winkworth* (d. 1873), the translator of "Lyra Germanica"; and *F. J. Fargus* (Hugh Conway), the novelist.

Before the restoration of 1864 a choir-screen (dating shortly before Edward VI.'s accession) passed across the church 2 bays E. of the tower, thereby converting a portion of the actual choir into a small nave or ante-chapel. This arrangement seems to have been made when the church first became a cathedral. This has now been removed and the stalls brought back to the usual position at the W. end of the choir.

The existing **choir** consists of 5 bays, from the tower to the E. end of the aisles; beyond again is a chancel, or sacrarium, of 2 bays

The work of the choir, with its aisles, was commenced and nearly completed during the long abbacy of *Edmund Knowle* (1306–32), and belongs to the first or geometrical division of the Dec. period. The Norm. choir seems to have had a square E. end at the 3rd bay from the E. tower-piers—the actual choir consisting of the tower and 2 bays of the presbytery, leaving the E. bay for a *via processionum*. Abbot Knowle, retaining the Norm. walls as far as possible, added 2 bays to the choir and its aisles, besides the Lady Chapel, projecting beyond them. The pier arches are unusually lofty, rising the full height of the building, without either clerestory or triforium.

From the clustered piers springs the groined vaulting of both the choir and aisles. The capitals, of graceful leafage, have been touched with gold and colour. The lofty pointed arches between the piers are very pure and fine; the archivolts spring from the ground, and run round the arches continuously, without any capitals. The lierne vaulting of the roof has its compartments foliated, with the exception of those in the last bay of the choir, and of the 2 bays of the sacrarium. These are plain, the high altar having originally stood at the last of the richer bays, and a screen running across behind it, separating the 3 plainer ones to the E. This arrangement, which has been returned to, admitted of the usual processional path at the back of the altar. The 2 easternmost bays formed the Lady Chapel.

The canopied stalls, the gift of Abbot Elliot (1515), which had been, contrary to all ritual traditions, placed in the 2 easternmost bays below the sacrarium, have now been restored and replaced in their correct position. The modern carving of the episcopal throne, and that of the sides of the principal seats, is good. Some of the ancient misereres deserve notice. On one is a fox preaching to geese; and on another a tilting with brooms between a man and a woman—one mounted on a pig, the other on what seems intended for a turkey-cock.

The organ, by Father Smith. is on the N. side of the choir.

The **sacrarium** is of the same date and general character as the choir. It is of 2 bays, the easternmost of which is raised by a single step. The window in each bay

corresponds to that opposite, the 2 W. windows being of unusual and beautiful design. All the windows have transoms, and the heads of the lower compartments are filled with rich and peculiar tracery. An open parapet (new, and part of the recent work), with triangular headings, runs at the foot of the windows.

The **E. window**, which fills the whole of the end above the reredos, is pure Dec., and of singular beauty in tracery and design. The glass, according to Mr. Winston, dates from about the year 1320. In 1847 the window was completely restored, and "has lost nothing of its interest by the process." A good deal of modern glass, however, was necessarily used. The general effect is admirable. There is much white silvery glass, from which the brilliant colours shine out like jewels.

"The window represents a stem of Jesse. The lower lights contain figures of the Virgin and infant Jesus, as well as prophets and kings. Each figure is enclosed in an oval panel, formed by the ramifications of a vine-branch. Some of the foliaged scrolls in the heads of the lower lights (which are principally original) are remarkably graceful in design. In the 3 upright lights above are the crucified Saviour, the Blessed Virgin, and St. John the Evangelist. Original parts of all these figures remain.

"In the upper tracery lights is a display of heraldry, of singular excellence."

The 4 side windows of the chancel are filled with very rich and interesting ancient glass, of the same date and character as that in the E. window, rearranged during the late restorations. The first window from the E., on the N. side, contains merchants' marks, and was therefore in all probability the gift of a Bristol trader.

The *reredos* below the E. window, which has been elaborately gilt and coloured, has been restored since 1839, when a Corinthian structure of wood was removed. Of the 3 arched recesses the 2 at the sides are ancient. Above these recesses are corbel-heads and shields of arms, probably those of the first and second Edward, Berkeley, and De Clare.

A row of panels, with shields of benefactors (of Perp. date, and probably placed there by Abbot *Burton*, 1530–36), which formerly ran along above the reredos, are now placed in the passage under the E. window.

In the first bay on the S. side are the *sedilia* (2), modern (but copied from the ancient), and of very great beauty. They are in 4 divisions, with rich canopies of leafage, supported by shafts of red serpentine. In the next bay on this side (3) is the mitred effigy, with pastoral staff, of Abbot *Newland* or *Nailheart* (d. 1515), the constructor of a portion of the transept, called the "good Abbot" from his charitable deeds. Two angels sustain a shield at his feet, with his bearings, a bleeding heart pierced by three nails, and the initials I. N. The effigy is placed in one of the remarkable recesses which are among the characteristic features of this cathedral, and which formed part of the Dec. work commenced by Abbot Knowle.

There are 8 recesses in the walls of the chancel and aisles. The form of the arch, and the rich foliaged decoration, with the five projecting finials, which surround it, are altogether unusual. Similar recesses occur in the S. aisle of Redcliffe Church, in the S. aisle of St. David's Cathedral, and in Berkeley Castle, where a doorway has a somewhat similar heading. (The monastery at Bristol was, it should be remembered, the burial-place of the Berkeleys, and under their especial patronage.)

A brass plate let into the wall below Abbot Newland's tomb records the place of interment of Bishop *Butler*.

On the N. side of the chancel are two of Abbot *Knowle's* decorated recesses. Within that nearest the altar (4) is the effigy of Abbot Newbury, a great benefactor to the church, who died in 1463; the other contains the effigy of Abbot Hunt, 1491. The former has been ascribed to Knowle himself, the rebuilder of the greater part of his church. It was Abbot Knowle who refused to receive the murdered body of Edward II. — which was afterwards interred in the abbey church of Gloucester (see that cathedral), to the great advantage of the Benedictines there. Knowle was interred under the centre tower, and has no monument but the church itself.

In passing into the **N. choir-aisle** (D), the eye is at once attracted by the vaulting of the roof, which is altogether unusual. The choir and its aisles are of the same height; and to carry out this arrangement the following ingenious construction has been adopted. A transom, as we must call it, has been thrown across the aisles from the outer walls to the capitals of the choir-pillars. These are supported on arches springing from attached shafts on each side of the aisle, and in the spandrils formed by these are lesser arches, so that the transom is supported by the points of 3 arches. From the centre of the transom springs a vaulting-shaft which carries the groining of the roof. A horizontal buttress is thus obtained, which receives the thrust of the groining of the choir, and carries it across the aisle to the external buttress. The windows, which have transoms, are especially to be noticed for the beauty of their Dec. tracery. A stringcourse, with the ball-flower, runs immediately under them in each aisle.

The E. windows of the choir-aisles are filled with glass coloured with enamels. They date from the reign of Charles II.; and although it is traditionally said that they were presented by Nell Gwynne, it is more probable that they were the offerings of *Henry Glenham*, Dean of Bristol from 1661 to 1667, and afterwards Bishop of St. Asaph, whose arms are repeated three times in the window of the S. aisle, and once in that of the N. The subjects (arranged as type and antitype) in the *N. aisle* are—in the centre, the Resurrection; below, Jonah Delivered from the Whale. On the rt., above, the Ascension; below, Elijah Taken up to Heaven. On the l., above, the Agony in the Garden; below, Abraham about to Offer up his Son. Much of the original enamelled glass has been lately replaced by "pot glass."

Under this window was a very magnificent reredos of canopied niches, now much mutilated, and almost hidden by modern monuments, of which the chief is an elaborate Jacobean monument for *Robert Codrington* (d. 1618). It was restored by Sir Bethel Codrington in 1840, when it was removed from the chancel. In front is a marble figure, by *Bailey*, of *Harriet Isabella*, wife of *John Middleton*, of Clifton (d. 1826). The figure, which kneels, with the hands clasped on the breast, is graceful, and far more appropriate than most others of its class. At the side, and under the first bay of the choir (6), is the tomb of *Paul Bush* (d. 1558), the first bishop of Bristol. A "cadaver" rests under a canopy supported on Ionic shafts. Under the window, in this first bay, is *Bailey's* very fine bust of *Robert Southey*, "born at Bristol, October, 1774"; behind it is one of Abbot Knowle's recesses.

The second bay contains a similar recess. In the third is a monument for *William Powell* the tragedian (d. 1769). The window above is half blocked by the wall of the Lady Chapel. The lower part is disfigured by monuments.

The fourth and fifth bays open into the Lady Chapel, of earlier date than the existing choir, which was connected with it, as at present, by Abbot Knowle. In the fourth bay, between the choir and the Lady Chapel, is a high altar-tomb with effigies (7), under a groined canopy. The effigies are no doubt those of *Maurice, Lord Berkeley* (d. 1368), and Elizabeth his wife. Over the armour of the male figure is a surcoat with the Berkeley arms. The helmeted head rests on an abbatial mitre (the crest of the Berkeleys—assumed in reference to their extensive church patronage). The lady wears the veiled head-dress.

The groined canopy above this monument, and a similar one in the next bay, should be noticed. The panelling of the vault is carried on three small brackets, springing from the wall.

In the third bay of this aisle a door opens to a staircase leading to a wall passage running round the church, the view of which from the side of the E. window is remarkably fine. The corbels in this staircase are Norm., and show it to have been part of Fitzhardinge's church.

The **Lady Chapel** (generally called the *Elder* Lady Chapel (F), because the altar of the Virgin was removed to the E. end of the church after Abbot Knowle had rebuilt the choir) is entered from the N.E. corner of the transept. The chapel is E.E., and dates, according to Mr. Godwin, from the time of Abbot *John*, 1196–1215. More probably it was built by Abbot Wm. Bradeston (c. 1250). The mouldings and general character indicate a very early period of Gothic architecture. The chapel is of 4 bays, the windows in which are triplets with inner arches, of which those at the sides are gracefully foliated. The detached vaulting-shafts are of Purbeck marble. The sculpture of the capitals and stringcourses is unusually good; and the spandrils of the wall-arcade are filled with grotesque designs which are full of spirit and character, greatly resembling the sculpture in Wells

Cathedral, much of which is of the same date. Remark especially —a goat blowing a horn, and carrying a hare slung over his back; a ram and an ape playing on musical instruments; and St. Michael with the dragon (?); below is a fox carrying off a goose.

The blank arches on the S. side of the chapel resemble those of the windows opposite, but "on looking carefully at the S. side, we see that the whole has been reconstructed. In order to bring in two arches of communication to the choir-aisle, the upper arcade, corresponding to the windows on the opposite side, has been cut short, and a stringcourse of the same character as the vaulting-ribs has been built in." The E. wall and window and the groined roof are of Early Dec. character, and may be fairly assigned to Abbot Hugh of Dodington, 1287–94.

Under the E. window is a tablet with *Mason's* lines in memory of his wife (d. 1767), which deserve to be read. There are also monuments to *Dr. Elwyn* (d. 1840) by *Bailey*, and to *Mrs. Elwyn* by *Chantrey*.

The **S. choir-aisle** (E) (part of Abbot Knowle's work) precisely resembles the N. aisle in its vaulting and general character, with the exception of the W. bay, which Mr. Godwin assigns to Knowle's successor, Abbot *Snow*, 1332–41.

The enamelled glass in the E. window is of the same date as that in the corresponding window in the N. aisle. The subjects are —in the centre, above, Our Lord driving the Money-changers from the Temple; below, Jacob's Dream. On the right, above, the Tribute Money; below, Melchizedek and Abraham. The subject on the left, above, is uncertain; below, the Sacrifice of Gideon. Under this window is a modern monument.

In the third and fourth bays from the E., within two of Abbot Knowle's recesses, are effigies of two of the Berkeleys. The most W. (9) of these is that of *Thomas, Lord Berkeley* (d. 1243). He wears the long surcoat, over a hauberk of mail, under which appears the haketon, which is not often seen. His poleyns, or knee-caps, should also be noticed. On his left arm is a shield with the Berkeley bearings. The effigy in the next recess (10) is that of the second *Maurice, Lord Berkeley* (d. 1281). Some ancient colouring was discovered on these effigies. On the label and on the inner moulding of one of these recesses the mistletoe is represented, perhaps a solitary instance of the use of this plant in ecclesiastical decoration.

In this arch, in the second bay from the E., a door opens to a small ante-chamber (G), through which a chapel called the **Berkeley Chapel** (H), and now serving as a vestry, is approached. The **ante-chamber,** formerly the sacristy, has much that is curious and unusual. On the S. side are 3 ogee arches, with niches between. The finials and the ornaments in the spandrils are unusually large and elaborate. Other niches or recesses, the use of which is uncertain, occur over the door, and in the N.E. corner. The roof, with its detached curved ribs, may be compared with the "skeleton" vaulting under the rood-lofts in St. David's and Lincoln Cathedrals, and in Southwell Minster. Round

the label of the doorway entering the chapel is a remarkable moulding, in which the ammonite is represented. This fossil, which is sometimes represented in the churches of the chalk districts (as in St. Mary's Church, Guildford), and which occurs also in Bp. Alcock's chapel at Ely, is found in profusion in the oolite quarries at Keynsham on the Severn, between Bath and Bristol (see *ante*).

The fireplace, with chimney, used for baking the hosts should not be overlooked. In the N. wall there is a narrow upright cupboard for the abbot's pastoral staff.

The **chapel** itself, now used as the song-school, may have been erected by Thomas de Berkeley after the death of his wife Margaret in 1337. There are 2 windows toward the E., the soffits of which are ornamented with a gigantic ball-flower; and the peculiar foliage on some of the capitals should be remarked. Under each of the windows was an altar, the steps and piscinas of which remain.

Between the chapel and the aisle the wall is pierced by the peculiar arch of Abbot Knowle; and under it, in the thickness of the wall, is an altar-tomb (11), much ornamented, and containing five shields, charged with coats of the Berkeley, Ferrers, and De Quincey families. The tomb in its present state is no doubt that of *Thomas, Lord Berkeley* (d. 1321), whose wives were of those families; but the lower part, with its very fine foliage, is of E. E. date, and may possibly have been removed from another part of the church. The Berkeley arms occur also in the spandrils of the door of the ante-chamber.

Opening from the westernmost bay of this aisle is a chapel (K) known as the **Newton Chapel** (from members of that family who are buried there). The S. wall divides it from the chapter-house, with which it is parallel. It has, however, been much altered, and the arches, half cut off, in the S. and W. walls show that it was interfered with when the transept was completed. In this chapel are monuments for *Sir Richard Cradock*, Justice of the Common Pleas (d. 1444), and 17th century monuments for members of the Newton family; cumbrous structures, but good examples of their time. Here is also a monument by *Westmacott* for *Elizabeth Stanhope*, (d. 1816); and one by *Bailey* for Bp. *Gray* (d. 1834).

A door in the W. wall of the S. transept (12) leads to the small remains of the **cloisters,** very late Perp. partly rebuilt and the windows filled with stained glass, and the walls furnished with some of the monuments from the transept. Other monuments are placed in the **Lay Clerks' Vestry,** formerly the *Monks' Day-room*, to the S. of the chapter-house. The most remarkable is a stately Jacobean pile with a semi-recumbent effigy to Sir Charles Vanner (d. 1830). From the E. walk of the cloister (L), the vestibule of the chapter-house (M) is entered. Both vestibule and chapter-house are Transition Norman, and belong to the original building of Fitzhardinge, but to its second or richer period. In the **vestibule** the arches from N. to S. are round, whilst those from E. to W. are pointed. The nail-head moulding runs round the arches, and the capitals are cushioned.

The **Chapter-house** itself (N), greatly enriched with zigzag and cable mouldings, is at present of 2 bays, but was originally of 3. It is a parallelogram (like the early chapter-houses of Oxford, Gloucester, Exeter, and Chester), the dimensions of which are now 42 ft. by 25 ft., but originally were 71 ft. by 25 ft. In the E. wall (which is recent) are 3 windows. In the W. wall, below, are 3 circular arches, that in the centre being the doorway. The walls are arcaded, and the whole interior, including the shafts of the wall-arcades, and the groining, which is quadripartite, are much enriched. On the restoration of the flooring in 1831 twelve stone coffins were discovered, which probably contained the remains of as many abbots.

Forming the covering-slab of one of these coffins was a remarkable piece of ancient sculpture of Norm. character, and perhaps coeval with the chapter-house, which is now in the canons' vestry, a small room within the chapter-house. It represents the descent of our Lord into Hades, and the delivery thence of the "spirits in prison." The prostrate body on which our Lord treads is that of Satan, who attempted to prevent His entrance.

In an apartment at the S.E. angle of the cloister are the scanty remnants of the chapter library, the greater part of which was burnt in the riots of 1831, when the bishop's palace was destroyed, and the whole cathedral narrowly escaped conflagration.

At the S.W. corner of the cloister area is a beautiful E.E. doorway, which was formerly the entrance to the refectory. What remains of the refectory, much modernized, is used as the cathedral school and master's house.

The palace stood on the site of the Abbot's lodgings at the S.E. corner of the cloisters. The traveller will see with interest the Dec. remains of the bishop's private chapel, famous for the cross erected in it by Bp. Butler, who spent 5000*l.*, ten times the income of the see, on the repairs of the palace in 1744. A dungeon, in which were some bones and iron instruments, was discovered in 1744 by the falling in of the floor under one of the apartments in the palace. The only means of entrance was by an arched passage, just large enough to admit one person.

Although the abbey of St. Augustine was small ("the number on the foundation was only six, including officers, and at no time does it appear to have been more than seventeen" — *Godwin*), its arrangements were in every respect "as complete as those of the most noble monasteries." The great gateway, portions of the cloisters, and the gatehouse of the Abbot's lodgings, are the chief existing remains.

The lower part of the **Great Gateway,** leading from Upper College Green to Lower College Green, belongs to the second or richer period of Fitzhardinge's work, and is of Transitional character, like the chapter-house. The four receding orders of the archway are greatly enriched with zigzag and other mouldings, and an interlacing arcade lines the sides of the passage. "It may be regarded as a typical specimen of the style, sober and constructive,

yet rich."—*Fergusson.* The upper part of the gateway is Perp., the work of Abbot Elliot; Mr. Godwin suggests, with some probability, that the Norm. work of the gateway was rebuilt by Abbot Elliot before the upper portion was added. The statues of Abbots Newland and Elliot occur in the upper part of the front.

The former **Deanery,** adjoining the abbey gateway on the W., and formerly known as the "Dove House," was enlarged by a N. wing by the famous Warburton, 1758. This wing has been removed to make room for a new street to the Hot Wells.

On passing through the Norm. gatehouse, we have l., adjoining the W. end of the cathedral school (formerly the refectory), the house which is now the Deanery. Below this is the **Lower College Green** (called in early documents the "viridis placea"), where stood an ancient chapel in which St. Jordan, traditionally one of the companions of St. Augustine of Canterbury, is said to have been interred. On the l. is the **gatehouse to the Abbot's lodgings,** with 2 richly moulded Norm. arches, W. and E., now clogged with yellow-wash, altered by Abbot Nailheart, who has left his rebus on the wall above the outer arch, as well as on a late Perp. doorway beyond, which gives access to the Infirmary cloister, now the boys' playground.

College Green, to the N. of the cathedral, was the burial-ground of the abbey. It was in the last century the favourite promenade ground for the beaux and belles of Bristol. In the centre stood the *High Cross*, brought thither from its original site, but again taken down in 1768 because it interfered with the convenience of the promenaders. In 1742 Pope wrote: "The College Green is pretty, set with trees, with a very fine old cross of Gothic curious work in the middle, but spoiled with the folly of new gilding it, that takes away all its venerable appearance." Its stones were piled up within the cathedral till Dean Barton, whose brother was incumbent of Stourton, presented them to Mr. Hoare of Stourhead, by whom it was re-erected in his park. A modern copy of the building, with vacant niches, and destitute of the surmounting cross, in deference to the Protestant feelings of the citizens of Bristol, was erected at the S.E. of the Green in 1850, and has since been removed to the centre; its former site is now occupied by a marble statue of the Queen (by Boehm).

On the N.E. side of College Green stands **St. Mark's** or the **Mayor's Chapel** (open Monday, Wednesday, and Friday). It is one of the most curious and interesting architectural remains in Bristol, and contains some remarkable monuments. It was the chapel of the Hospital or Priory of *Gaunts*, founded by Sir Maurice de Gaunt (c. 1229), in the suburb of Billeswyck (*Bellus Vicus*), for the support of a chaplain and the relief of one hundred poor daily. It was placed by the founder under the management of St. Augustine's. His nephew and heir, Rob. de Gournay, made it a distinct house. It was granted at the dissolution to the mayor and burgesses, and was con-

verted into a chapel for the mayor and corporation, 1722; before this it was used by the French Protestants. The infamous Bedloe, Oates's coadjutor, was buried by charity near the door from College Green, 1680. *Orchard Street* stands on the site of the orchard of the hospital.

The plan consists of a long narrow nave and choir, chiefly E.E., the windows and arches having mouldings of singular intricacy and richness; a Perp. tower attached to the centre of the S. aisle, which has chapels appended.

The *S. aisle* is Dec., and its W. window a singularly rich example of the style, profusely covered with ball-flower. The windows contain a great deal of old glass, of different dates and various countries, chiefly German, the greater part of which came from Fonthill. Much of it will repay attentive examination. In the E. window are cinque-cento figures of St. Barbara and St. Catherine. The *reredos* is a rich piece of Perp. tabernacle work, restored in 1830, after the ancient model. The *chancel* contains to the S. some fine sedilia, and a stately monument to Thomas James, mayor and member of Parliament of the city; and one with two kneeling figures to Thos. (d. 1598) and John Aldworth (d. 1615), famous in the history of the commercial connection of Bristol and Newfoundland; and to the N., in arched sepulchral recesses, the effigies of Sir Thos. Berkeley (d. 1361), in plate-armour, and Katharine his wife; and of Miles Salley, Abbot of Eynsham and Bishop of Llandaff (d. 1516), a very fine figure, in the full episcopal costume, with mitre and pastoral staff, and official ring worn over the jewelled gloves.

To the S. of the chancel is the *Poyntz Chapel*, now used as a vestry, "in composition and detail one of the most elegant models of the Perp. style remaining. It has a fan-tracery roof, niches, and other embellishments, rich, but not overloaded with ornament."—*Rickman.* Observe the altar part, the pavement of Moorish azuleias, brought from Spain, worked in transparent enamel, and the interpenetrating mouldings of the side recesses.

The *S. aisle* is very good Dec. The blocking of the side windows by houses built up against it renders it dark, but the effect is fine. The E. window is occupied by a wonderful Thomas à Becket from Beckford's collection. Notice the beautiful effigy to Sir Henry de Gaunt (d. 1268), under an ogee canopy; on the W. wall the monument of Ald. Bengough, by *Chantrey*, and a singular portrait effigy of Hen. Cookin, a boy of eleven (d. 1627), represented on one knee, with a book in his hand.

To the E. of the S. aisle is the *Lady Chapel*, of late Perp., with a flat panelled ceiling. On an altar-tomb in the centre are the noble effigies of Sir Maurice de Gaunt (d. 1229), the founder of the priory, drawing his sword, and his nephew Robert Gournay. Both effigies are in chain-armour, with surcoats girdled round the waist, and their heads "en coiffé de maille." The whole E. wall is taken up with a wondrous structure in honour of Dame Baynton (d. 1667); the lady is kneeling, and smiling over her shoulder at

one of her sons, who, with his brother, is drawing the curtain of the alcove. The chapel contains busts and monuments to many civic worthies, which need not be particularised. The visitor must not omit to observe the very remarkable *squint* in the N.E. corner.

A little below, and to the E. of the Cathedral, a large open space was formed in 1893 by filling up the portion of the Floating Harbour above the Drawbridge, now St. Augustine's Bridge (where is a memorial tablet to Cabot). The western end forms the "Tramway Centre," whence lines radiate to all the suburbs. The remainder is laid out as a garden, Colston's Avenue, and contains statues to Burke (M.P. for Bristol, 1774–80) and Colston.

The visitor should now cross St. Augustine's Bridge and make his way by Baldwin Street, Bristol Bridge, and Redcliffe Street to the church of ***St. Mary Redcliffe,** "the pride of Bristowe, and the western londe," not unjustly designated by Leland "by far the fairest of all churches," and by Camden as "the most elegant of all the parish churches I have ever seen." In stateliness, harmony of proportion, and general effect, it exceeds the cathedral, but it wants the interest derived from the architectural history of the latter. [The authorities of Redcliffe Church set an excellent example to other churches, by allowing its doors to be always open to all comers. The visitor will leave his offering with much more satisfaction in the collecting-box for the restoration fund than in the hands of a verger.]

The best approach is by the long narrow defile of Redcliffe Street. The church, high above the street, stands on a natural terrace of living rock, the colour of which gives its name to the locality, and is approached by broad flights of stone steps, which add dignity to the noble building. The view from this point is singularly attractive; the richly decorated tower, W. front, the unique N. porch and transept, with an unusual array of flying buttresses, pinnacles, and pierced parapets, form a *tout ensemble* of extreme architectural magnificence. The view from the S.E. is also very fine. The church being built on shelving ground, from S. to N., its height on the W., N., and E. sides is imposing. The Lady Chapel at the E. end is carried on a wide arch, beneath which is a thoroughfare.

The plan of the church is cruciform, with an attached tower at the W. end of the N. aisle, N. and S. porches, a projecting Lady Chapel, and sacristies to the N. The transepts have double aisles, a very unusual feature in parish churches, and by no means common even in cathedrals. The whole church is covered by Perp. vaults of very remarkable richness and elaboration of detail, with skilfully carved bosses.

The present church stands on the site of one of high antiquity. Fragments of carved stone discovered in the walls during the restoration show that this church contained late Norm. work. In the 13th century indulgences issued for its repair prove that it was then dilapidated, and therefore not recently erected. Of 13th-century date, pure E.E., we have

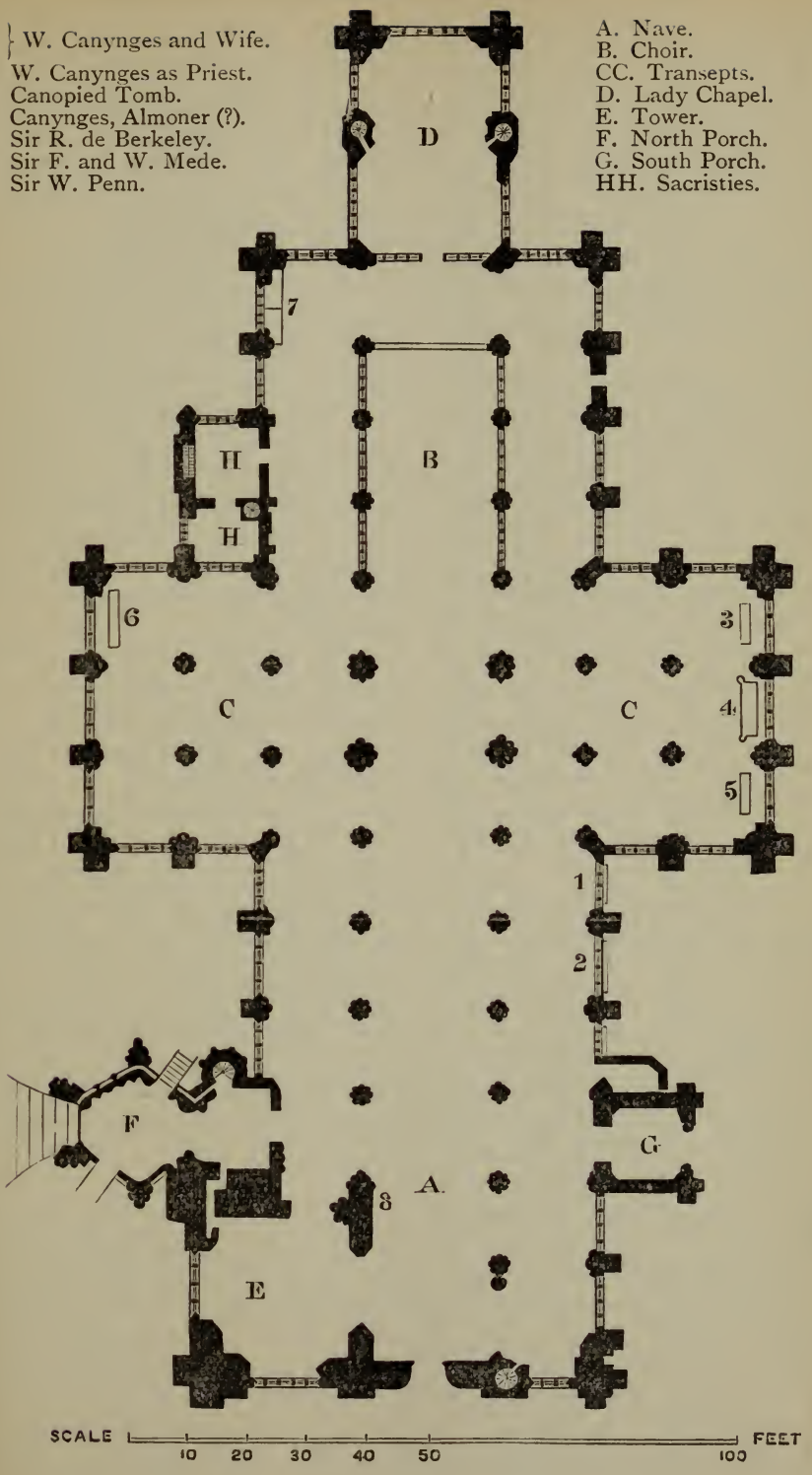
the lower part of the tower, the inner N. porch, and one corbelled vaulting-shaft at the W. end of nave against the S. tower wall. Traces of the line of the vault springing from this corbel on either side may be faintly discerned on the tower wall. These may not improbably be remnants of a complete E.E. church, the piers of which stood on the site of the existing piers, which may possibly be the same, heightened and adapted on the later style. The next work is Dec. (c. 1287–1300), including the tower and the outer N. porch. Then followed the S. transept of late Dec., passing into Perp., and the S. wall of the S. aisle of the nave with its remarkable stellate recesses. These portions may be assigned to Wm. Canynges the elder (c. 1376). The S. porch and the spire followed almost contemporaneously.

The Lady Chapel, originally of only one bay, was in course of erection in 1385. The fabric of the church was gradually completed, and was brought to an end (c. 1440) by Wm. Canynges the younger, grandson of the elder Canynges, who, "with the help of others of the worshipful town of Bristol, kept masons and workmen to repair and edifye, cover, and glaze the church which his grandfather had founded in the days of Edward III."

The clerestory of the chancel, N. transept, and nave, which are exactly the same in design, together with the rich vaults, may be safely ascribed to this period. In 1446 the spire was struck by lightning, and reduced to the truncated form which it exhibited till the recent restoration. The Lady Chapel was prolonged by the second bay, and the later windows of the S. transept and S. aisle set up at a little later date.

The visitor is advised to walk round the church and take a general survey of the exterior before he proceeds within. The **tower** is a very striking feature, from its mass and the richness of its decorations. It is of three stories, the first and second divided by a band of elegant niches, recently filled with statues. The third contains triple belfry windows, of beautiful proportions, under rich ogee canopies. The buttresses, of fine projection and richly decorated, are crowned with elaborate pinnacles; the whole is covered with a profusion of the ball-flower. The tower is crowned with a spire of exquisite proportions, which, after remaining truncated since the storm of 1446, has been recently raised to its full elevation of 292 ft., exceeding both Lichfield and Chichester. The cap-stone was laid May 9th, 1872. The **W. Front** is somewhat too narrow, and is dwarfed by the vast dimensions of the tower. The W. window is modern. The very beautiful turret at the S.W. corner should be noticed.

The **N. Porch**, immediately to the E. of the tower, is, perhaps, the most noteworthy feature in the church. In plan it is almost unique in England (similar porches occurring only at Ludlow and Chipping Norton), while in elaborate execution it is quite so; but the very singular and elaborately carved door has a counterpart in the monastery of Batalha, in Portugal. In plan it



St. Mary Redcliffe.

is a hexagon, with bold hexagonal buttresses at the external angles, excavated into magnificent niches, which are continued along the three sides, blocking the lower part of the beautiful Dec. windows. It is crowned by a dwarf upper story, with quadrangular openings, lighting a chamber above (see *post*), and a pierced parapet.

Continuing our walk, we notice how much dignity the fall of the ground gives to the N. elevation. Beneath the N. transept is a spacious and lightsome *Crypt*, now the *Choir Vestry*. From this point of view the height and dignity of the panelled clerestory may be appreciated, together with the imposing array of flying buttresses crowned with pinnacles which hold up the groining within. E. of the transept against the N. aisle of the chancel is a building of three stories, with a chimney-stack, which formed the residence of the chantry priests. At the N.E. corner of the churchyard is **Chatterton's monument**, representing the boy in his Blue-Coat scholar's dress. It will be observed that the 2 bays of the **Lady Chapel** are separated by turrets. These turrets originally stood at the angles of the chapel, the second bay being a later addition. Passing under this second eastern bay by an archway (as at the Lady Chapel at Gloucester) we find ourselves on the S. side of the chancel with the S. transept facing us. It will be observed that the clerestory of this transept is not panelled, and that the flying buttresses are crocketed. The very remarkable clerestory windows (see *post*) should be noticed. The windows of the W. aisle of this transept, and of the S. aisle of the nave, are different from the aisle windows generally, the arches of which have nearly straight sides, with sharp corners resembling Wm. of Wykeham's window at Winchester Cathedral.

The S. porch (the usual entrance) is a fine specimen of rich Perp. The front is decorated with crocketed and pedimented niches, but the proportions are not good, and the door looks dwarfed by the heavy wall above. It appears to have been originally of one story, open to the roof. The present groining is a later insertion, and cuts off the side windows and niches.

The practised eye will have discovered in this circuit many points of difference in the architecture of the exterior, but the general appearance is uniform. The lofty clerestory is supported by flying buttresses, springing from massive pinnacles. Each bay contains a large and well-proportioned Perp. window, with elaborate tracery, and is richly panelled. The transepts have the same elevation as the nave and choir, but are narrow for their height, and need accentuation at the angles, as is the case with the E. end.

On entering by the S. porch, the visitor cannot fail to be struck by the richness of the decorations and harmony of the proportions. The general impression is one of singular lightness and loftiness. The nave is of 7 bays, the choir of 5, and the transepts of 3; the arches lofty and well-proportioned; the windows are very large, and many of them are

filled with stained glass. The rich vault is carried on shafts springing without any break from the floor, which adds much to the general effect of height. There is no triforium either in nave or chancel, the space between the clerestory and the arcade being filled with panelling, which in the nave and chancel comes down to the hood-mould of the arches. The want of a horizontal stringcourse is much felt. In the transept a horizontal band of panelling produces a better effect. The windows of the **S. Transept** deserve especial attention. The end window, of unusual height and narrowness, is of flamboyant type. Those of the clerestory are set in a band of open quatrefoils, an almost unique design. The vault is 6 ft. lower than in the rest of the church. The N. window of the **N. Transept** is a later copy of the S.

The **Choir,** of 5 bays, is of the same general design as the nave. It is divided from the aisles by a low screen of open stonework. The E. arch on each side is occupied by a lofty close screen.

The **Lady Chapel,** of 2 bays, once shut off and used as a school, is now thrown open to the church, from which it is separated by a stone screen. The windows are filled with gorgeous picture glass of a memorial character.

The **N. porch** is one of the most interesting portions of the church. It is divided from the church by a highly decorated screen of two stories, masking the wall of the narrower aisle of the E.E. church. The interior porch is good plain E.E., with an arcade, supported on Purbeck marble shafts, the capitals of which, and of the door shafts, deserve notice. It is covered by a quadripartite vault, and has a room over it. It communicates by a very fine shafted E.E. doorway with the external porch. This is covered with a very richly ramified vault, and is surrounded with canopies above a stone seat. The whole has been very elaborately and tastefully coloured. The carved cornice, and indeed all the sculptures, will repay close examination. In addition to the great N. entrance there are external doors to the W. and E., probably for processions. On the S.W. side is a relic-chamber with ornamented openings to the porch. A newel staircase gives access to the treasury, in which the precocious and misguided genius, *Thomas Chatterton* (son of a lay clerk of the cathedral, and grandson to the sexton of this church), pretended that he had discovered in an old chest, known as "Canynges' Cofre," fragments of which with others are still preserved here, the MS. poem of Rowley, a priest of Bristol of the 15th century, and other ancient documents. [Chatterton was born on Redcliffe Hill Nov. 20th, 1752, and was educated at Colston's School, in the dress of which he is represented on a monumental cross erected to his memory in the churchyard. His ambitious hopes of speedily attaining a high place among the poets of his day having been disappointed, he committed suicide by poison, when in a state of almost literal starvation, Aug. 24th, 1770, at the age of only 17 years and 9 months.]

The **Monuments** to be noticed are (1, 2) those to Canynges and

his wife Joan, formerly occupying a high canopied tomb of modern date, partially obscuring the great window of the S. transept, but now replaced in the remarkable stellated monumental recesses discovered behind modern wainscoting in the S. aisle; and (3), in the S. transept, one representing Canynges as a priest, said to have been brought hither from the college at Westbury, of which he was dean, when that was burnt by Prince Rupert to prevent its being occupied by the Parliamentary forces; (4) in the W. aisle of same transept a similar effigy traditionally called "Canynges, almoner," but without foundation; (5) in the same aisle a slab to William Canynges' cook, with a knife and skimmer incised; (6) to the brothers Sir Thos. and William Mede (c. 1475), with the wife of the former (7), a rich altar-tomb, under elaborate canopies, forming one design; (8) Everard Le French, 1350, in his robes as a magistrate, in the transept; (9) John Lavyngton, vicar (c. 1393), a figure in demi-relief, on a stone coffin, under the tower; (10) under the N. window of N. transept, a knight in mail on an altar-tomb, perhaps Sir R. de Berkeley; and (11) on the S. wall of the tower in the nave, removed from the S. transept, Admiral Sir William Penn (d. 1670), father of the founder of Pennsylvania, and a native of Bristol. His body was brought from London, where he died, and lay in state in the city, and was buried with great pomp. His armour and heraldic insignia are suspended above the monument. In the chancel are some good brasses. In the Lady Chapel, Sir John Inyn, Recorder of Bristol and Chief Justice of King's Bench, 1440. In the choir, John Jay and his wife Joan, 1480, and John Brooke, Serjeant-at-law, and his wife. The poets Southey and Coleridge were married in this church to the two Misses Fricker, the former leaving his wife at the church door, and starting immediately for Portugal. In 1653 twenty of the Dutch prisoners captured by Blake in his victory over Van Tromp were confined in the crypt of this church.

Beneath Redcliffe Hill a considerable number of subterranean chambers and passages leading to the river have been discovered, probably once connected with contraband traffic. Opposite the W. end of the church St. John's Lane leads to the Quakers' burial-ground, on the N. side of which is a 13th century hermitage, excavated in the red sandstone cliff.

Before the Reformation Bristol could boast of no less than nineteen parish churches. Of these fourteen still exist, and the majority deserve a visit.

St. Stephen's (to the rt. in going down Clare St.) is remarkable for its fine Perp. tower, one of the most elaborate in the W. of England, 133 ft. high, crowned with very light pierced parapet and cage-like turrets, conspicuous in every view of Bristol; restored and the turrets rebuilt, 1862. The church is of rather late, but good, Perp., built by John Shipward, a merchant, and Mayor of Bristol, 1455. The *S. Porch* is very rich with fan-tracery, but the style of ornamentation is flat and inexpressive. The interior, restored 1876, is plain but stately.

The arcades are of 7 bays, without any constructional chancel, remarkably fine and tall. The windows are broad and ill-proportioned. In the N. aisle is an altar-tomb with male and female effigies under a beautiful ogee canopy, probably the monument of the founder and his wife. At the E. end of the S. aisle is a cinque-cento monument to *Sir Geo. Snygge* (d. 1617), Recorder of the city, with an effigy in full costume. Beneath the tower is an effigy of a civilian on an altar-tomb.

All Saints, on the S. side of Corn Street, is almost embedded in houses and public offices: the Norwich Union Fire Office actually projecting into the church above the N. aisle, the old Rectory being equally intrusive on the other side, and cutting off the arches of the 2 W. bays, which retain their low Norm. pillars; the rest of the church is Dec., with late Perp. windows. At the E. end of the S. aisle is a monument to *Edward Colston* (d. 1721), the princely benefactor to Bristol by his educational and other charities, with a statue by Rysbräck, in a full-bottomed wig, under an Ionic pediment, with a long list of his numerous benefactions. The tower was rebuilt in 1716. This church was the seat of a guild of *Calendaries*, transferred hither from Christ Church by Robert Fitzhardinge and Rob. E. of Gloucester (c. 1146). They had a library over the N. aisle, burnt 1466, when many of the records and archives of the city perished. These Calendaries were a body of clerks and laymen of very remote antiquity, who formed a kind of "Propaganda fide," pledged to do their utmost to convert Jews and infidels and educate youth, in addition to which they undertook the guardianship of the archives of the city and other literary treasures. They were under the government of a prior or dean, and weekly lectures were read by them in the 15th century. [Compare with this foundation that of the Domus Conversorum, now the Rolls in Chancery Lane, established with somewhat similar objects.]

St. Werburgh's, which stood at the corner of Small Street, was a late Perp. church, with a rich pinnacled tower. In it John Wesley preached his first sermon in Bristol, 1777. It was pulled down to widen the street, 1879. The tower was re-erected for the new church of St. Werburgh in a northern suburb.

Christ Church, formerly known as Holy Trinity, and the first seat of the Calendaries, at the corner of Wine Street and Broad Street, is an Italian building, 1787, with a lofty and well-proportioned spire in the style of Wren's steeples, and a pleasing interior. The church is almost completely hidden by houses.

St. Nicholas, at the bridge, was erected 1762–68, at the cost of £6000, on the site of an ancient church, of which the finely groined *crypt* (c. 1503) is still preserved, and is well worth examining. The chancel of the former church was over the S. gate of the city, and was ascended by 12 steps. The present *Ch.* has a

Batty Langley Gothic exterior, with a very well-proportioned taper spire. The interior is characteristically described in a former Guide-book as "one of the finest modern rooms that can be seen, 100 ft. by 50, and without a pillar!" The churchwardens' accounts are preserved, and are very curious.

St. Mary-le-Port (restored 1877), in the street of the same name, derived its title from being adjacent to the spot where, before the erection of Bridge Street, ships unloaded their cargoes. It is a small Perp. building of no special interest, but contains the fine brass eagle desk from the cathedral sold as old metal by the Dean and Chapter, 1802, rescued from the melting-pot and presented to the church "on condition of its remaining here for ever."

St. Peter's, a little further to the E. in the street of the same name, is not of any special architectural interest. The lower part of the tower is Norm. In the *S. aisle* is a Gothic canopied tomb, with a female effigy of the Newton family. There is also a brass of a priest, Rob. Loud, 1461, a stone *cadaver*, and an altar-tomb to Rob. Aldworth and his wife. *Sir J. Cadaman*, who was beheaded in the castle, while Prince Rupert held the city, for killing an officer of the garrison, lies buried in the church; and in the churchyard the unfortunate *Richard Savage*, the poet, who died in 1743 in the Newgate prison hard by, where he was confined for debt, and was buried at the cost of his gaoler. No stone marks his grave, but there is a memorial tablet to him on the S. aisle wall. This church and the two last contain good specimens of 18th-century woodwork.

St. James, on rising ground, to the N. of the Horse Fair, is the nave of the church of the priory, founded 1130 by Robert, Earl of Gloucester, as a cell to Tewkesbury. Its founder devoted every tenth stone of those he imported from Normandy, for the building of the great keep tower of the castle, to this priory. The former died 1147, and was buried in the choir. An effigy, now placed against the S. wall, is said to be his, but certainly belongs to the 13th century, and is more probably that of Richard Grenville, buried here in 1240. The nave, having always been parochial, was preserved when the rest of the church was destroyed. The church is a good specimen of late Norm., the W. front, which has an intersecting arcade and a circular window above, being the most interesting part. The clerestory has externally a continuous pointed arcade. There is a fine plain Norm. arcade within of 5 bays. At the end of the N. aisle is a bust by Bailey to the Rev. T. T. Biddulph (d. 1838). To the S. of the altar are the kneeling effigies of Sir Charles Somerset (d. 1598), son of Henry, Earl of Worcester, with his wife and daughter. Princess Eleanor, "the demoiselle of Bretagne," died here, and was buried in the priory, but her body was afterwards removed to Amesbury. In the old **Parsonage**, to the N.W. of the church, is a good

room with ceiling panelled in stucco, and the arms of Alderman Whitson, founder of the Red-maids' School, on the chimney-piece.

St. John the Baptist, at the end of Broad Street, stands on the line of the city wall, and St. John's gate is carried under the tower, which supports a low spire. On the front of the gate are the statues of Brennus and Belinus, the fabled founders of Bristol. The church was built by Walter Frampton, merchant (d. 1357), whose effigy in alderman's robes is within the church. There is a brass to Thomas Rowley, merchant (d. 1478), and his wife. Beneath the church is a finely groined crypt worth inspection. The Jacobean gallery and other woodwork is exceptionally good.

Temple Church, in the street of the same name, near the rly. station, derives its name from having formerly belonged to a cell of the Knights Templars, the foundations of whose round church were discovered during the restoration. It is a large and stately Perp. building, with very light and lofty nave arcades, and wide aisles, and enormous, coarse windows. It was well restored in 1873. The church is celebrated on account of its *leaning tower;* this must have been once as fine as that of St. Stephen's, but its carved work is greatly decayed, and it has been robbed of its turrets and pinnacles. The singularity of this tower is mentioned as early as 1576 by Braun in his "Theatrum Urbium." The 16th-century geographer, Abraham Ortelius, asserts that he put a stone as large as a goose-egg into the chink that opened between the tower and the church wall when the bells were rung, and saw it crushed. In 1772 it was plumbed, and found to lean 3 ft. 9 in. from the perpendicular. The church contains a brass to a priest in cope, with a lady in a mantle on the reverse, and another to a civilian. Notice especially the 14th-century latten chandelier with statuettes of the Virgin Mary and Child and of St. George and the Dragon. Before the gateway of this church, at the junction of Temple Street and the new Victoria Street, stands a **leaden statue of Neptune,** cast by a plumber of the parish, and presented to it as a memorial of the destruction of the Spanish Armada. It now surmounts a fountain.

St. Philip and St. Jacob (Jacobus = James) is a large church of various dates, the tower at the E. end of S. aisle. Part of the tower, and some portion of the church, are good E.E. The *font* is plain Norm., lined with lead. An armed demi-figure in the Kemys aisle is, without any authority, popularly identified with Duke Robert, eldest son of the Conqueror, imprisoned in Bristol Castle by his brother Henry I.

St. Augustine, to the S.E. of the cathedral, is a large plain Perp. edifice with good tower, erected 1480, on the site of an earlier church, founded by the abbots of St. Augustine's for the use of the dwellers outside the abbey precincts. The bosses of

the chancel roof bear the initials and device of Abbot John Nailheart and Abbot Elliot.

St. Michael was rebuilt 1774, but the 15th-century tower was preserved. Near it is an ancient **Almshouse**, founded by John Foster, merchant, "in honour of God and the three kings of Coleyn," in Henry VII.'s reign. (See *ante*.) Rebuilt c. 1878.

St. Thomas, at the junction of Thomas Street with Victoria Street, has a body added in 1793, in a classical style, to an ancient tower, showing some E.E. ribs and bosses in the belfry. The interior was elaborately decorated in 1879, and contains some good specimens of modern and last century wood-work, and some enamelled altar taper-stands, "supposed to date from the 13th century."—*C. S. T.*

St. Raphael, with almshouses for seamen annexed, is a costly modern building, erected by Canon Miles from Woodyer's designs.

Some very interesting remains of the Dominican, or **Black Friars**, founded by Sir Maurice de Gaunt and Matthew de Gurney, 1229, are still to be found on the premises of the Friends' Meeting House and Schools between Broad-Weir and Rosemary Street. They consist of two parallel halls on the first floor, running E. and W., connected by a Dec. cloister (restored). That to the N., formerly the Friars' Dormitory, and subsequently the **Cutlers' Hall**, is the larger—86 ft. long by 23 broad—with a fine open collar-beam roof. At the W. end is a very lovely 2-light Dec. window with flowing tracery, and at the E. end a fine E.E. 3-light window, removed from the Bakers' Hall. The side windows are lancets, two at E. end of the N. range being cusped. The room below contains an E.E. window with central banded shaft. The smaller room to the S., known as the **Bakers' Hall**, formerly the lesser hall of the Friary, 44 ft. by 24 ft., has an open roof. In the cloister below are preserved an old stone lavatory and some remains of rich tabernacle work. Scantier remains exist of the **Franciscan Friary** in a narrow lane leading N. from Lewin's Mead. The part now existing is a small hall raised on a basement, and lighted by two elegant Dec. windows with traces of "Kentish" tracery. It is converted into two cottages.

Broadmead Baptist Chapel, the oldest place of Nonconformist worship in Bristol, founded 1640, had *Robert Hall* as its minister.

Rich as Bristol was formerly in specimens of mediæval domestic architecture, few examples now survive. The chief remains are the groined crypts or undercrofts on which as a rule our forefathers erected their houses, and which are so often erroneously considered as marking the site of some religious building. Of these, according to Mr. Godwin, twenty existed on one side of High Street, and fifteen on the other side. A fine example exists under 22, High Street, and another under the "Castle Bank," at the corner of High Street and Wine Street.

Colston's House, in Small

Street, was the most remarkable example of mediæval domestic architecture in Bristol. This was an important mansion, the official residence of the mayors of Bristol from Henry II. to the Commonwealth, in which they entertained many royal and noble guests. It contains the remains of a hall of 3 bays, 46 ft. by 37 ft., of the middle of the 12th century, divided by semi-Norm. arcades into a centre and side-aisles. Behind the hall was "a grand range of Perp. buildings in three stories, each having a rich fireplace, that in the lowest room being of extraordinary size and magnificence. The windows are very large, square-headed, with rear arches and panelled jambs." —*J. H. P.* Much of this interesting house has been now swept away, and what remains, which is well worth examination, is incorporated in the modern **Assize Courts.**

Canynges' House, in Redcliffe Street, retaining a 15th-century hall with a high-pitched roof, suffered great injury from a disastrous fire, Oct. 9th, 1881.

St. Peter's Hospital, behind the church of the same name, originally the mansion of Thos. Norton, the Bristol alchymist (c. 1400), but much altered in 1612, is a rich specimen of half-timbered work, with carved gables, and projecting windows deserving notice. The watergate, decorated with quaint carving, bears the date 1612. In 1695 it was used as a mint, and in 1697 it was converted into a hospital or poor-house for the city. The *Court Room* is of unusual magnificence. The walls are panelled, the ceiling stuccoed with pendants; a large bay window to S. is filled with stained glass. The mantelpiece, Gothic below Jacobean above, is very rich. On the same floor is the *Chapel.*

The **house** at the corner of High Street and Wine Street, formerly the banking house of Messrs. Stuckey and Co., now a shop, is a very curious wooden structure, with overhanging stories, said to have been framed in Holland, and brought over here.

In the Welsh Back, near St. Nicholas Church, is a panelled Dec. doorway of singular richness belonging to **Spicer's Hall.** The **Old Swan Inn,** in Guardhouse Passage, is worth a visit.

Red Lodge, Park Row, long the residence of the learned *Dr. Prichard,* is a curious old mansion, with carved staircase and internal porch, and handsome chimney-pieces and ceilings.

The older streets till lately abounded in picturesque gabled houses with projecting stories, which are being rapidly swept away in modern alterations. The most remarkable are to be seen in Redcliffe Street, Temple Street, St. Mary-le-Port Street, and the Pithay. The **Lamb Inn,** in West Street, retains its mediæval character, and the **Cat and Wheel,** Narrow Wine Street, should also be noticed. King Street, with its lofty gabled half-timber houses, its two quaint groups of stone-built almshouses, the Renaissance fronts of the Library,

the halls of the Coopers' and Merchants' Companies, and the portico of the once celebrated theatre, is one of the most picturesque and striking streets in the country.

The chief public buildings are grouped together in Broad Street and Corn Street.

The **Guildhall**, in Broad Street, is a modern Gothic building, Perp., by *Pope*, of Bristol. The six niches between the windows are filled with statues of Edward III. (who granted the corporation charter); Queen Victoria; Dunning and Sir Michael Foster, recorders of Bristol; and of Colston and Whitson, its benefactors, all by *Thomas*, a Bristol sculptor. The building, which runs back into Small Street, includes the Assize Courts, Bankruptcy Court, and the Grand Jury Room; and preserves the very interesting remains of Colston's House. (See *ante*.)

The **Council House**, at the corner of Corn Street, on the site of St. Ewen's Church, is a correct but cold classical building with Ionic pillars, by Sir Rob. Smirke, opened in 1827. A statue of Justice with her scales, by Baily, surmounts the front. Within are the Mayor's Court, and offices for the various civic functionaries. The *Council Chamber* contains portraits of aldermen and benefactors to the city, including the Earl of Pembroke, by Vandyck, James II., by Kneller, and Burke, by Sir J. Reynolds; and the valuable civic plate and insignia are preserved here.

On the opposite side of Corn Street is

The **Exchange**, a building of the Corinthian order, by *John Wood*, of Bath, 1743. It is but little used by the merchants, who meet at the Commercial Rooms. The interior, which has an elegant colonnade, is used as a corn-market. On the pavement in front of the Exchange are four bronze tables on pedestals, removed from the old Tolsey, formerly used by the merchants for making their payments and signing their bonds, when they were accustomed to meet in the open street. Opposite is the

Bristol Branch of Lloyds Bank, formerly W. of England and S. Wales Bank, completed 1858. The façade is based on the Library of St. Mark at Venice. The lower story is Doric, with an arcade of 5 arches, columns, and decorations emblematical of the city, the county, and S. Wales. The upper is Ionic; in the 10 spandrils of the arches are life-size female figures emblematical of the elements and sources of wealth. At the corner of Small Street, on the site of St. Werburgh's Church, is the very ornate four-storied mass of the *London and S.W. Branch Bank*. Below this the

Commercial Rooms serve as an exchange, and contain reading-rooms. It was built 1811, and is surmounted by statues, which represent the city of Bristol, Commerce, and Navigation. It has a recessed Ionic portico, beneath which is a bas-relief by *Bubb*, representing Britannia, supported

by Minerva and Neptune, receiving tribute from all parts of the world.

Below the Commercial Rooms is the *Royal Insurance Office*, with polished red granite columns, and the Ionic fronts of the *National Provincial Bank* and the *Wilts and Dorset Bank*, and on the other side of the street the very ornate fronts of the *Imperial* and *Globe Insurance Offices*, and the buildings of *Stuckey's Bank*.

In Small Street is the *Post Office*, with a good plain Italian front.

To the S. of Corn Street is *King Street*, containing the *Merchant Venturers' Hall*, newfronted 1709, where George IV. was received when Prince of Wales, 1807; *Coopers' Hall*, with a good Corinthian front; some picturesque *Almshouses* worth inspection, and

The **City Library**, in King Street, especially rich in Hutchinsonian Divinity. It contains the books of its founder, Dr. Tobie Matthews, Bishop of Durham, a native of Bristol, who left them, 1614, for the free use of the citizens. Among them are several important MSS. of 13th to 15th century, and a large number of early printed works, including many interesting "fourteeners." In the Library is a frame magnificently carved by *Grinling Gibbons*.

To the S. of King Street is **Queen Square**, a quiet spot, bordered with elms, in the centre of which stands a bronze equestrian statue of William III., by *Rysbräck*, for which the artist received £1800. Here is the **Custom House**, on the site of that destroyed by the mob, together with the *Mansion House* and two sides of the square, in the disgraceful riots of 1831.

S. of Queen Square and the Floating Harbour, and by the side of Bathurst Basin, is the **Bristol General Hospital**, one of the noblest buildings of the kind in the country, completed in 1857 at a cost of about £15,000. The basement consists of warehouses, which produce a revenue for the institution.

Returning northwards and crossing **Colston Avenue**, rt. are the handsome Corinthian portico of *St. Mary's Chapel*, on the Quay, built originally for the Irvingites, at a cost of £13,000, and now occupied by the Roman Catholics, and the **Colston Hall**, opened 1867 (on the site of Colston's School, removed to Stapleton), standing in Colston Street, containing a fine room for concerts, public meetings, etc., accommodating 3000 persons, partially destroyed by fire, 1898. Turning l., the visitor will pass St. Augustine's Church and College Green l., and commence the steep ascent of *Park Street*, built 1775, to

The **Freemasons' Hall**, l., formerly the *Bristol Institution* (now removed to the *Bristol Museum*, *post*), erected 1820 from Cockerell's designs, and deservedly admired for the classic purity of its style. The alto-relievo of the frieze is by Baily. Here Sir Humphry Davy commenced his chemical researches and delivered lectures in the theatre.

At the upper end of Park Street, the steep hill leading to Clifton, are, rt., the **Blind Asy-**

lum, erected from designs by Rickman (the public singing of the pupils on Mondays at 3 is worth hearing), and the former *Bishops' College*, now the Volunteer Club House. Beyond this is the **Bristol Museum and Reference Library,** a building in the Venetian-Gothic style, erected 1871. This institution originated with the Library Society, founded in 1771. In 1871 it amalgamated with the Bristol Philosophical and Literary Institution (founded in 1820), under the title of the Bristol Museum and Library, and in 1894 it passed into the possession of the City under its present designation. It contains a museum rich in geological specimens, especially the fossils of the mountain limestone and the lias and oolite, and in objects of natural history. There is, too, a collection of objects illustrative of Egyptian archæology, and the anthropology collection is important. Here are the original of Baily's *Eve at the Fountain*, and other statues and casts. Here also are preserved *Chatterton's will* and other papers connected with that ill-starred young author, including several of his MSS.

The **Bristol Room,** not generally open to visitors, contains a very full collection of manuscripts, maps, papers, books, pictures, and other material which has special reference to Bristol, its past history, institutions, and people. The library is an admirable one, numbering over 50,000 vols.

Behind the Museum in Tyndall's Park are the conspicuous and handsome Tudor buildings of the **Grammar School,** removed from the back of the Mayor's Chapel, and the buildings of the **Bristol University College.**

On the other side of Park Street, l., Berkeley Square affords access to Brandon Hill, with its wide and interesting prospects. (See *post.*) A little farther on, in the angle of the roads, stands the

Victoria Rooms, a handsome building with Corinthian portico, intended for public meetings, assemblies, concerts, etc. The great hall measures 117 ft. by 35 ft., and is 47 ft. high.

On the opposite side of the road are the *Queen's Hotel* and the

Bristol Fine Arts Academy, erected 1858, a richly decorated modern structure, with marble statues of Flaxman and Reynolds on the front Here are three pictures by *Hogarth*, formerly in Redcliffe Church; they are in bad condition, and not at present shown. On the ground-floor are the Schools of Science and Art.

Adjacent to this is a very ornate *Wesleyan Chapel*, built 1863; and not far distant, at the end of Park Place, l., the Roman Catholic **Church of the Holy Apostles,** begun by Bp. Baines on a stately classical plan, and temporarily completed and made available for service in the Italian-Gothic style. Attached to this is the *Convent of the Sisters of St. Catherine.*

From Park Street, passing through Berkeley Square, the visitor should not omit to visit **Brandon Hill,** so called from

the hermitage of St. Brendan, a cell of St. James's Priory, tenanted in the Middle Ages by a recluse, sometimes male, sometimes female. There was also a Calvary. Irish mariners resorted to this chapel to offer their prayers, and return thanks for a safe voyage, the Spanish sailors doing the same at St. Vincent's Chapel, and those who sailed in the Bristol Channel at that of St. Blaise. The hill rises to a height of 250 ft., and is a bit of open common laid out as a park, surrounded by houses, but commanding a fine view of Bristol, and of the country to the S., particularly of the *Tump* at Ashton Court, and of *Dundry Hill*. A footway to Clifton lies across it. It is a good example of "millstone grit," and bears the traces of a fort thrown up in the Civil Wars. On the summit is a lofty **tower** in the Venetian-Gothic style, erected in 1898 to commemorate the discovery of the mainland of America by Cabot, 1497. At the foot of the W. slope stands

Queen Elizabeth's Hospital, a large castellated building in the Tudor style, erected 1847. The charity was founded 1586, by John Carr, for the education of poor boys of this city and the manor of Congresbury. More than 180 boys are here educated and maintained.

Bristol is rich in charitable institutions of this nature. We may notice the *Red Maids* in Denmark Street, founded by Alderman Whitson in 1627; *Colston's School*, opened 1708, in St. Augustine's Place, and removed 1861 to the bishop's former palace at Stapleton, for boarding, educating, and clothing 100 sons of freemen; and *Müller's Orphan Houses*, on Ashley Down, about 1 m. (which should by all means be viewed on Tuesday or Wednesday), in which more than 2000 orphans are clothed, maintained, and educated without any endowment, simply by the gifts of Christian people. (See "Handbook for Gloucestershire.")

In the **Baptist College,** Stoke's Croft (N. part of Bristol), is preserved an original miniature portrait of Oliver Cromwell, said to be the best portrait of him known. It is by *Cooper*, and was bequeathed to the College, 1784, by the Rev. Andrew Gifford, a Baptist minister. Here also is a curious collection of Hindoo idols and the only perfect copy known of Tyndale's New Testament, which has been reproduced in facsimile by *Mr. Francis Fry*, of Cotham, the owner of a remarkable collection of early-printed Bibles and Testaments.

Bristol can boast of many eminent children, either native or resident—*Ralph of Bristol*, Bishop of Kildare, 1223; *John Milverton*, Bishop-elect of St. David's, imprisoned in the Castle of St. Angelo, Rome, for his liberal views; the two *Canynges; William Botoner*, otherwise Wyrcestre, the son of a glover on St. James's Back, 1415; *William Grocyn*, the friend of Erasmus, Greek Professor at Oxford, 1442; *Sebastian Cabot* (b. 1477), son of John Cabot, a Venetian pilot), the discoverer of Newfoundland and Florida; *Dr. William Child*, the church musician (b. 1607); *Archbishop Tobie Matthew*, of

York, born on Bristol Bridge, 1546; *Alderman Whitson*, founder of the Red Maids' School; *Admiral Sir William Penn*, 1621; *Edward Colston*, founder of the Free School which bears his name (b. 1636); *Dr. J. Lewis*, historian of Thanet, 1675; *Chatterton*, born on Redcliffe Hill, 1752; *Hannah More* (b. 1745), whose sisters kept a school in 10, Park Street, and who died, 1833, at 4, Windsor Terrace, Clifton; the poet *Southey* (b. 1774); *Sir Francis Freeling* (b. 1764), so long the Secretary of the General Post Office; *Dr. W. B. Carpenter*, the physiologist; *T. Lovell Beddoes* and *J. A. Symonds; Sir Thomas Lawrence*, the eminent portrait painter, was born, 1769, in Redcross Street, his father soon after becoming landlord of the "White Lion," moving thence to Devizes; *Baily* the sculptor; and *Müller. Ripingille*, and many eminent artists, such as *Danby*, *Poole*, *Pyne*, *Branwhite*, *West*, the *Fripps*, *Jackson*, etc.; *Lord Chancellor Westbury* and *Dr. Vaughan*, the late eminent Dissenting minister and historical writer, were educated here. At Bristol also *Sir Humphry Davy* made his first appearance in the scientific world, under Beddoes, at the Pneumatic Institute for the Medical Inhalation of Gases, at the N.E. corner of Dowry Square. To the scientific men who have rendered Bristol illustrious may be added *Herapath* the chemist, and *Prichard* the ethnologist. *Robert Hall* (d. 1831), the famous preacher, was minister of Broadmead Baptist Chapel. On one occasion in his congregation were seen an Irish bishop, a dean, and thirteen clergymen. Bristol is full of memories of *Southey* and *Coleridge*. Southey's father kept a linen-draper's shop, No. 9, Wine Street. At 48, College Street, the two poets and the other pantisocratical dreamers, Lovell and Burnett, lodged when preparing for their voyage to America. Coleridge's first anti-Pittite lectures were delivered at the Corn Market in Wine Street, and he went over from Bristol to Bath to preach in the Unitarian chapel, "in the morning on the Corn Laws, in the afternoon on the Hair-powder Tax." On leaving Clevedon in 1795, he removed to "pent-up rooms" on Redcliffe Hill, and, after a short sojourn at Stowey, returned to Bristol, 1796.

Edmund Burke sat for Bristol, and here made some of his most brilliant speeches. Here, after one of them, his colleague, Mr. Cruger, a Bristol merchant, when his turn came to make an address, as the story goes, simply added, "I say ditto to Mr. Burke."

Between 1804 and 1809 the Avon was dammed back as far as Cumberland Basin at the Hot Wells, and, together with the Frome, converted into a magnificent *Floating Harbour* at an expense exceeding £600,000. A new channel was cut for the Avon, commencing above the city and terminating at Rownham Ferry. *Bathurst Basin* affords accommodation for the smaller steamers and coasting vessels; while *Cumberland Basin*, near the Hot Wells, opens immediately on the tidal Avon, and receives the larger vessels and steamers. The *Welsh Back*, as the rt. bank

of the upper portion of the Float is called, is principally occupied by Severn fishing smacks and Irish provision brigs. The size of the vessels increases as we descend, and at the *Grove*, S. of Queen's Square, West or East Indiamen and American ships are ranged side by side, forming a very forest of masts. Farther down the *Sea Banks* accommodate timber ships.

The "Great Western" steamship, which was the first to cross the Atlantic in 1838, was built in Bristol, as was the still larger iron ship, the "Great Britain."

Bristol gives the title of marquis to the family of Hervey (*created* 1826). It was first bestowed on the Digbys by James I.

* **Clifton.** The long and steep ascent of Park Street leads from College Green to Clifton, once a distinct village, now a suburb of Bristol. It is the "west end" of the city, where its merchants dwell, far removed from the smoke and din. It is also much frequented as a health resort, and is remarkable for the beauty of its villas and the breadth of its elm-shaded roads. Among a labyrinth of streets, squares, and crescents, ranged one over the other along the slopes, the most elevated and handsomest of all is **York Crescent,** above which, at the top of the hill, are the open downs, and **St. Vincent's Rocks,** upon the verge of the

Gorge of the Avon, where "the river runs between rocks and a hanging wood; a scene truly magnificent, and wanting nothing but clearer water; the stream consists of liquid mud, and the gutter-like bed is hideous except when the tide is full, for it rises here not less than 30 ft." —*Southey*.

The Avon is here navigable for large vessels and steamers approaching the port of Bristol. It is indeed a most striking view to look across this chasm of about 600 ft. span, which separates Somersetshire from Gloucestershire, upon the river winding at a depth of nearly 250 ft. below, upon the sails of ships and the funnels of steamers.

St. Vincent's Rocks are composed of the mountain limestone, which abounds in fossil remains, and in its upper beds, where it mingles with the millstone grit, includes also crystals of quartz, which are sold under the name of *Bristol diamonds*. Quarries have been formed in these cliffs, so as to diminish their beauty, and cause Southey to accuse the Bristolians of "selling the sublime and beautiful by the boatload." High up on the bold precipice (220 ft. above high-water mark) is a cavern called the **Giant Ghyst's Hole,** described by W. Wyrcestre under the name of "Fox Hole," "valde periculosus locus." The chapel and hermitage of St. Vincent stood about the middle of the high rock. It may be visited from the **Observatory** by a flight of steps cut through the solid rock. The observatory contains some good telescopes and other optical instruments, and a very large camera obscura. It stands 285 ft. above high-water mark, in the centre of a British camp occupying the projecting headland, protected by two

ditches and ramparts, and including a square Roman camp. There are two other camps on the other side of the Avon, which was here crossed at low water by a ford on a natural bed of rock—**Bower Walls** (Burgh Walls, recently destroyed), of seven acres, with three ramparts and ditches, and originally a wall of loose stones; and **Stoke Leigh** Camp, of eight acres, each cutting off a jutting crag; divided by the lovely wooded ravine known as **Nightingale Valley** in **Leigh Woods**. A British trackway, afterwards utilized by the Romans, crossed the Avon by a rocky ford at this point, and pursued its course up the valley and along Leigh Down to Cadbury Camp, and so westwards. Very near the observatory the gorge of the Avon is spanned by the graceful curve of the ***Suspension Bridge**, affording a long-needed and convenient communication between the Gloucestershire and Somersetshire banks, without the necessity of descending to Rownham Ferry and climbing again.

The plan of a bridge was devised by Alderman Vick, of Bristol, who died in 1753. He left £1000, with directions that it should be put out at interest until it reached £10,000, which he conceived would be sufficient for the purpose. The money had reached £8000 in 1830, when an Act of Parliament was obtained, additional capital raised, and at last Mr. Brunel commenced the bridge. The funds, however, proved wholly inadequate, and the works remained incomplete for a period of 30 years. At length they were resumed in 1861, and the bridge, which is mainly constructed from the chains of Hungerford Bridge, was formally opened in Sept., 1864, on occasion of the visit of the British Association. The chains are carried over a tower of 80 ft. high on each bank, and support a carriage-way of 20 ft., and two footways of 5 ft. 6 in. each. The distance between the piers is 702 ft., the height from the water 245 ft., and the weight of the whole structure is 1500 tons. The view from the bridge is singularly beautiful.

Near the Clifton end of the bridge is the *Royal Spa Pump Room*, connected with which is a Hydropathic Institution with a complete set of modern baths and appliances. Close to the pump-room is the upper end of the Clifton Rocks Railway, a funicular railway which affords a rapid transit to Hot Wells, on the riverside immediately below.

Clifton and Durdham Downs stretch for about 1 m. westward. The broad flat expanse of turf, surrounded with villas and intersected with elm-shadowed roads, is charmingly broken towards the Avon with rocky dells, clothed with ferns and gorse and aged weather-beaten thorns. There is a pretty **Zoological Garden** on Durdham Down, with usually a good collection of animals, especially of lions and tigers, a few minutes' walk from the Mall.

Clifton *Ch.* was rebuilt in 1819, in what was then thought to be Gothic. The lofty pinnacles of its tower were taken down about 30 years since. The E. window contains a copy of Raphael's "Transfiguration" in stained glass.

Clifton possesses several more modern churches, of various de-

grees of merit. *Christ Church* has a lofty and graceful spire. *All Saints'*, still wanting its tower, is a fine example of the late Mr. Street's genius, with a grand but simple nave, 62 ft. high, and lofty clerestory filled with stained glass by Hardman. The sculptured reredos represents saints offering themselves and their gifts to Christ. *St. Paul's*, rebuilt in 1868, after being burnt down, has a bas-relief over the entrance door of "St. Paul Preaching," worthy of notice. The chapels of the various religious denominations are mostly of some architectural pretensions, and several have towers and spires.

Clifton College, founded 1862, and receiving a royal charter 1877, has speedily secured a leading position among our public schools. It forms a picturesque quadrangle of Gothic buildings, with a chapel added in 1862 by the munificence of the widow of Canon Guthrie, and a tower in commemoration of the same benefactor to the College.

An easy zigzag road and winding paths lead from the heights of Clifton Down to the water-side and the defunct

Hot Wells, where formerly stood a Grecian building, erected over the medicinal spring, but demolished for the widening of the river; the spring was known to William Wyrcestre in 1480, and was used as far back as 1632. It suddenly sprang into notoriety in 1670, through the marvellous cure of a certain Mr. Gagg, baker, of Castle Street, who was led to make trial of the water by a dream. Until 1695 the well was only accessible at low water, but then it was protected by a wall, and pumps to raise the water were erected. Smollet's "Humphrey Clinker" gives an amusing picture of fashionable life at Bristol Spa in the last century.

At the extremity of the hill, some way down the Avon, and high above its waters, is a picturesque tower, incorporated in a modern villa, erected 1693, and ungraciously known as "**Cook's Folly.**" It has been so called from the tradition told under various forms in so many different places, that a person of the name of Cook was here shut up to escape the fulfilment of a dream which indicated death from a serpent. A viper entered with faggots for the fire, and so inflicted the destined death-wound. A good view of the scenery is obtained at the brink of the precipice. The **Pitch and Pay Gate** long preserved the memory of the plagues year, when the country folks brought their goods to this spot and pitched them on a large stone, when the money was afterwards placed by the purchaser in a basin of vinegar.

EXCURSIONS FROM BRISTOL.

(a) Across Durdham Down is **Stoke Bishop,** so called from having belonged to Geoffrey, bishop of Coutances, where is a *Ch.* with a tall spire and highly decorated interior (Norton, arch.), and Elizabethan manor-house, built by Sir Rob. Cann in 1669. Up the hill among the trees to l. is a fallen cromlech. A pleasant walk along Stoke Lane leads by **Stoke Abbey Farm**, a gabled

Jacobean house, across fields to Westbury-on-Trym, 1 m.

Westbury Ch. deserves notice. It is an E.E. building, with later additions. It was "elegantly enlarged" by Alcock, afterwards Bishop of Ely, founder of Jesus Coll., Cambridge, while occupying the see of Worcester, 1476–1486. The S. aisle retains a W. triplet and a piscina and sedilia of the original work. The S. arcade is earlier than the N. The chancel terminates in a broad Perp. apse, and there is a large S. chapel, with a very light and lofty Perp. arcade. The reredos is very elaborate, and has been richly coloured and ornamented with a bas-relief of the Last Supper. On the S. of the sacrarium is the cadaver effigy of Carpenter, Bishop of Worcester (d. 1476), restored at the expense of Oriel College, of which he had been provost.

Below the church an ivy-clad square tower marks the site of the **College,** of which Canynges, the builder of St. Mary Redcliffe, was dean, and Wycliffe prebendary. It succeeds a monastery which existed here as early as 804, and in 964 received the first colony of Benedictine monks from Fleury, and may therefore be probably regarded as the original seat of the Benedictine system in England. In the Civil Wars the college was set on fire by Prince Rupert, lest it should become a Parliamentary garrison, and annoy Bristol.

Southey, in 1798, resided for twelve months at Westbury, where he wrote his "Madoc," and cultivated his acquaintance with Davy and his bag of nitrous oxide. "We hesitated," he writes, "between the appropriate names of Rat Hall, Mouse Mansion, Vermin Villa, Cockroach Castle, Cobweb Cottage, and Spider Lodge; but as we routed out the spiders, brushed away the cobwebs, stopped the rat-holes, and found no cockroaches, we bethought us of the animals without, and dubbed it Marten Hall." It had been an alehouse; "so we have had application to sell beer, and buy a stock of tobacco pipes."

A short distance W. of Westbury, 4½ m. N. of Bristol, is **Blaise Castle,** formerly the seat of J. S. Harford, Esq., the biographer of M. Angelo and Bp. Burgess, and friend of Wilberforce. The house stands above the gorge of the Trym, a wooded limestone ravine of singular beauty. The house is not shown; the grounds on Thursdays only, by previous application in writing. Blaise Castle contains a fine collection of pictures, principally of the time of Michael Angelo and Raphael, arranged with great taste in a gallery opening to a conservatory. Among them are the following works: *Seb. del Piombo*, the Pietà, a circular picture, painted on black marble, from the Barberini Palace; (2) The Holy Family, "the largest and most admirable example I have seen."—*Waagen. M. Venusti*, a copy of the Christ bound, by Seb. del Piombo. *D. da Volterra*, the Entombment, "a fine and rich composition." *Correggio*, excellent copies by his scholars of the Christ on the Mount of Olives, and the Virgin and Child. *Parmigiano*, the marriage of St.

Catherine, "worthy of his great model, Correggio."—*Waagen*; (2) The Virgin and Child adored by SS. Margaret, Augustin, and Jerome, a repetition of the altar-picture in the Gallery of Bologna. *Paul Veronese*, the Dead Christ on the lap of the Virgin. *L. Carracci*, a copy of Correggio's St. Jerome, in the Gallery at Parma. *Ann. Carracci*, a Riposo. *Guido Reni*, the Assumption, of the same period as the Murder of the Innocents in the Gallery at Bologna —"an admirable picture"; (2) The Crucifixion; (3) An Ecce Homo. *Guercino*, a Youth holding up a bunch of Grapes; (2) Diana. *Lanfranco*, Belisarius. *Carlo Dolce*, Christ and the Woman of Samaria—"livelier in expression and action than usual." *G. Poussin*, a Landscape. *Salvator Rosa*, two large poetical Landscapes, and three smaller Landscapes, one a Sea-shore Scene of great transparency. *Vandyck*, a half-length Portrait of a Lady armed as Minerva. *Hobbema*, a large Landscape. *J. Vernet*, View of a Sea-coast; (2) a Sea-piece, of his later time. *Raphael*, the Spasimo, of which the original is in the Madrid Gallery; "no copy, but an independent work, in which, I cannot doubt, Raphael had an hand."—*W.*

Drawing-room.—*Guido Reni*, St. Veronica, "of great power of colouring." *Tiarini*, the Assumption. *Schidone*, St. John the Evangelist. *N. Poussin*, a Landscape, highly poetic and of fresh colour. *Il Cavaliere d'Arpino*, Christ on the Mount of Olives. *C. Procaccini*, the Tribute-money. *G. Poussin*, a Storm; (2) a Landscape. *Salvator Rosa*, a Sea-piece, in the style of the large sea-pieces by this master in the Pitti Palace. *Carlo Dolce*, an Ecce Homo; (2) The Virgin, in profile.

In the entrance-hall are casts of the Parthenon Frieze, the Apollo Belvidere and Versailles Diana, and in the conservatory of some of the finest heads of the Antinous.

Dining-room.—*Lawrence*, Portrait of Mrs. Harford.

The *park* of Blaise is remarkable for the beautiful undulations of the grounds, which are thickly covered by the arbutus and other evergreens, and diversified by rocks. A singular group of limestone rocks is known as **Giant Goram's Chair**, where, according to the tradition, he was surprised by a nap, while his rival St. Vincent settled the dispute as to the course of the Avon by cleaving the present ravine through which the river flows. The modern triangular castellated prospect house, on the summit of Blaise Hill (which takes its name from a hermitage of St. Blaise, once existing there), was built in 1768 by the then owner of the estate, Mr. Thomas Farr. The hill is occupied by a British camp, defended by three ramparts and two ditches, now turned into pleasure grounds, and covered with shrubs and trees.

Mr. Harford's cottages—designed by Nash, 1810, irregularly placed round a sloping lawn, form "the beau-ideal of a village—consist of a group of houses of different forms, styles, and materials, stone, brick, wood, etc., roofed with thatch, tiles, or slates, surrounded with a variety

of trees and enwreathed with clematis, rose, honeysuckle, or vine. The dwellings have separate gardens, and a common fountain, in the centre of the green, shadowed by old trees. The inhabitants are all poor families, settled here by the bounty of the proprietor."–*Prince Pückler Muskau.* They may be seen any week-day between 12 and 5.

Henbury Church, a very fine E.E. building, with singularly lofty nave arcades, recalling the proportions of Gloucester and Tewkesbury, well restored by Street. The E.E. chancel has a remarkable deflection to the N. The stunted clerestory lights of the nave, sunk between every other pair of arches, deserve notice, as does the E.E. piscina in the chancel. The walls are lined with costly monuments, some of which deserve notice. That to Mr. Harford Battersby, on the N. wall, has an epitaph by Mrs. Hannah More. Under the tower are those of the Southwell family, of Kingsweston, from Sir Robert Southwell (d. 1702), envoy extraordinary to many foreign courts, and Secretary of State for Ireland.

A charming walk leads from Blaise Castle to *Kingsweston* and *Penpold Point*, along Kingsweston Hill, a narrow ridge about 1 m. in length, defended by an earthwork, consisting of a bank and ditch, towards its Blaise Castle extremity. The views on both sides are delightful. If you prefer it, you may make a separate excursion to *Kingsweston* and *Penpold Point*, a pleasant walk of 4 m. Or you may go down the river bank and turn inland where the path ends.

Kingsweston, once the seat of Lord de Clifford, and now of Mrs. Miles, is a plain but large house, three stories high, by Vanbrugh, beautifully situated on the Avon, 3 m. above its junction with the Severn. Of both rivers the grounds command delightful views, as well as of the Bristol Channel and the hills of Glamorganshire. **Penpold Point,** almost within the park, commands a magnificent view of the Severn and its banks for twenty or thirty miles, bounded by the highlands of Monmouthshire and Wales, and the King's Road immediately below, where the Avon joins the Severn. Below Kingsweston is the pretty retired village of **Shirehampton.** A rly. from the Hot Wells, Clifton, runs along the rt. bank of the Avon past the stations of **Sea Mills,** the supposed site of the Roman station *Abona*, where was once a large floating dock, and Shirehampton, to the pier and docks at **Avonmouth,** 5½ m., where a large hotel has been built, surrounded with ornamental pleasure grounds.

(b) To the **Tump** at Ashton Court, an eminence commanding a fine view of Bristol, and of the vale in which it lies. You should go E. along the ridge for a pretty glimpse of the sea between the valley sides, and of Worle Hill and the Steep Holme in the opening. There is another path from Rownham Ferry by Ashton Court, seat of Sir J. H. Greville Smyth, Bart., to the conspicuous church tower on *Dundry Hill.*

(c) **Leigh Court,** the seat of Sir H. Miles, Bart., was formerly well known for its gallery of pictures, most of which have now been dispersed. It is about 3 m. from Bristol, on the l. bank of the Avon, and is not now shown to the public. Charles II. was concealed in the old court-house, personating a servant keeping his room under plea of illness. The former house was once occupied by Gordon, the translator of Tacitus. The present stately mansion was erected from designs by Hopper (c. 1814).

(d) **Portishead,** a pretty watering place and harbour in the Bristol Channel, is distant from Bristol by rly. 11½ m. Leaving the Templemeads station, the Portishead line branches off to the W. and N.W., with a station at **Clifton Bridge** (3½ m.), thence under Leigh Woods, following the windings of the River Avon by **Pill** (7½ m.), a quaint, crowded, and not over-clean pilot-village, and **Portbury** (9½ m.), an old Roman station. The church has a Norm. S. door and a sanctus bell over the chancel. The parochial schools are held in the ancient buildings which belonged to the Augustinian abbey at Bristol.

* **Portishead** is growing in favour with visitors seeking health or pleasure; the site is picturesque, the temperature equable, the air pure and invigorating. Delightful excursions may be made in the neighbourhood. The harbour is sheltered by a densely wooded hill, rising abruptly out of the sea, commanding views of the Channel from the N. Devon Foreland, the mountain-coast of Wales, King Road, and the river Severn to and beyond Wynd Cliff and Aust. There are many walks through the woods, and there is also an esplanade. In the deep-water entrance to the estuary a pier has been constructed, which is used by the Irish and Ilfracombe steamers, and sometimes by the Welsh boats to avoid the tidal delays of the Avon. An extensive dock has recently been formed at great cost, in which vessels of large size may load and unload without ascending the Avon. On the N.W. point of this hill-promontory is a small fort. The Parliamentarian army took it from the Royalists in 1645. Early in the present century it was dismantled and sold, but has recently been repurchased by the Crown, repaired, and armed with a battery of four guns. Opposite is a small islet known as the *Denny*, and beyond are the great sandbanks called *Welsh Grounds*. The rise and fall of the tide are said to be greater here than at any point in the Old World, being as much as 42 ft. at springs. A strong westerly wind will often cause it to rise many feet higher.

Modern villas stud the hill-slopes overlooking the sea. The old village occupies the long sheltered valley on the S.; the *Ch.* (restored 1880) is Perp., except some Dec. arches and windows; the tower lofty and good. A new aisle has been recently added. A Norm. font, well preserved, and the old stone cross near the S. porch, deserve notice. The Bristol Training-ship "Formidable," for homeless and destitute boys, is moored off here.

2½ m. S. of Portishead, at the foot of Naish Hill, is the little village of

Clapton-in-Gordano. "Its pleasing situation, the small church on a high bank amongst luxuriant foliage, with the remains of the manor house close by, give a singular charm to the place." The remains of the **Court House** are very curious; the chief external feature was a square tower (added c. 1440); the walls of house (c. 1310); the hall was destroyed, but a double-arched entrance of oak under a wide pointed arch of the same, with a circle in the head enclosing three triangles, communicating with the buttery, etc., remains, and is a most interesting fragment of an earlier house (c. 1210) —"probably the most remarkable piece of early wooden domestic screenwork in existence."—*J.H.P.* The *Ch.* deserves notice for its singular and irregular outline, and its architectural peculiarities. It has work of all dates, Norm., E.E., Dec., and Perp. The plain square tower, with a pierced battlement, is of the 13th century. The bench-ends are, perhaps, some of the earliest wooden seats in England. The reredos is ornamented with two E.E. shafts, supporting candlesticks of an early date.

We will now proceed from Bristol on our main route westwards by the Great Western Rly. The line traverses the *Bedminster coalfield*, commanding a fine view rt. of Clifton, and the gorge of the Avon with the elegant curve of the Suspension Bridge. Further on we have on our l. the high ridge of *Dundry Hill*, crowned with its lofty tower, and rt. *Ashton Court* and *Leigh Down*.

Ashton Court (Sir J.H. Greville Smyth, Bart.), situated on a gentle eminence, and backed by a well-wooded park, enclosed and planted by Thomas de Lyons, 1391, presents an extensive front, 150 ft. in length, erected by Inigo Jones in 1634; but at the back of the mansion still remain the ancient gateway and the windows, battlements, and buttresses of the old Court.

In the 15th century it was the residence of Sir Richard Choke, one of the Justices of the Common Pleas, who died 1483, and is buried in Ashton Church.

The gallery in the Court contains some portraits of merit.

Long Ashton Church, founded by Thomas de Lyons (c. 1390), contains the fine canopied tomb of Richard Choke, Justice of the Common Pleas (ob. 1486), an ancient altar-stone on which the communion table stands, and an oak screen of good workmanship.

124¼ m. l. **Flax Bourton** Stat. The **Church**, recently enlarged and restored, has a Norm. door and chancel arch. 1 m. S., 5 m. from Bristol, is **Barrow Gurney.** The churchyard cross was restored, as a memorial of her son, by Mrs. Frankland Hood. *Barrow Court* (H. M. Gibbs, Esq., J.P.), a very fine Elizabethan house, was built on the site of a nunnery, and was for many generations the seat of the Gore family.

Beyond it is **Dial Quarry,** in the inferior oolite. The road to Axbridge here ascends **Broadfield Down,** and enters a hilly country, rich in beauty. L. are **Hartcliff Rocks**; rt. the **Goblin Combe** and **Hill Scars**; and, at a distance of 2 m., the romantic valley of **Brockley Combe.** On the N.W. shoulder of Broadfield Down is one of the three igneous vents mentioned by Dr. Buckland as occurring in this county. The second is at the uphill cutting, on the Mendips, the third at Hestercombe, on the Quantocks.

126¼ m. **Nailsea** Stat., where *Cadbury Camp* is about 3 m. to the rt. The small Perp. *Ch.* of Nailsea has a *stone pulpit*, with steps in a recess in the wall.

At **Nailsea Court,** ¼ m. down the line, a fine old manor-house (once the seat of the Bythemores, and afterwards of the Percevals, the ancestors of the Earl of Egmont), was born, 1551, Richard Perceval, who first discovered the designs of Spain against England previous to the sailing of the Spanish Armada. It is chiefly Elizabethan, though parts of the house date back to the time of Henry VIII., and contains some panelled rooms.

Chelvey Church, 1 m. S.W., has a Norm. door and 13th-century windows, and contains memorials of the families of Aish and Tynte, including an incised slab of the 13th century. There is some good woodwork and a font cover of the date 1631.

To the S. of Chelvey Church is a plain cross, surmounted by a ball. The remains of the manor house of **Chelvey Court,** temp. James I., now a farmhouse, still retain many of the old panelled chambers, one of which has a hiding-room at the back of the fireplace. On the porch are the arms of Tynte, the family who became owners of the house and manor about 1600.

1½ m. S.E. of Nailsea Station is **Backwell Church,** standing on a picturesque site among rocky heights and deep glens. The tower is fine and tall, of two dates, the upper part of which was, according to local tradition, rebuilt after a storm in 1603. It contains canopied sedilia and a rich tomb to one of the Rodney family, with an effigy in armour, and a reredos added by the Mayor of Bath. There is a chapel on the N. side of the chancel, with a canopied niche and a squint looking towards the high altar, founded by Elizabeth, wife of Sir J. Chaworth (ob. 1556), as shown by an inscription on the Perp. screen which separates it from the chancel. The sacristy is behind this, and has a quatrefoil in the wall looking on the altar. There are the remains of a fine holy-water stoup outside the S. door.

2 m. S.W. of the Nailsea Station, about 4 m. from that at Yatton, 9 m. from Bristol, is

Brockley Combe, a wooded and rocky hollow in the Dundry line of hills. This tract abounds in picturesque beauty; its chief characteristics are rocky eminences, richly clothed with wood and intersected with precipitous

ravines. Brockley Combe is more than a mile long, and the rocks are in some places 300 ft. high. **Brockley Church** stands very prettily. It contains a richly carved reredos and pulpit. Adjoining it is **Brockley Court**, a seat of the family of Pigott. Towards the close of day the valley forms a vista to the setting sun, which in its descent illuminates the distant sea. Brockley was a favourite spot with the poet Coleridge, who in one of his rambles from Clevedon composed the following lines :—

"With many a pause and oft-reverted eye
I climb the Coomb's ascent: sweet songsters near
Warble in shade their wild-wood melody:
Far off the unvarying cuckoo soothes my ear:
Up scour the startling stragglers of the flock
That on green plots or precipices browse:
From the deep fissures of the naked rock
The yew-tree bursts! Beneath its dark green boughs
('Mid which the May-thorn blends its blossoms white),
Where broad smooth stones jut out in mossy seats,
I rest—and now have gained the topmost site.
Ah! what a luxury of landscape meets
My gaze! Proud towers, and cots more dear to me,
Elm-shadowed fields, and prospect-bounding sea:
Deep sighs my lonely heart: I drop a tear:
Enchanting spot! Oh, were my Sara here!"

Cleeve Combe is another rugged valley of a character similar to that of Brockley. It is nearer the Yatton Stat., being 3 m. to the E. of it.

At the lower end of the combe rises **Cleeve Toot,** a conical pile of limestone rocks, the summits of which, as seen from the road, look like a huge chair, whence a fine view can be obtained.

130¼ m. ✲ **Yatton** Stat., where branches diverge W. to Clevedon, and E. by Axbridge, Cheddar, and Wells to Weymouth, on the Weymouth line of the G.W.R.

The village of Yatton (½ m. S. of the stat.) has its name (Yatton = Gate-town), according to some, from the floodgate of the estuary, now dry, and converted into Kenn and Nailsea Moors. (Another more probable form of the name, *Eaton*, or Yeo-ton, or the "ton by the water," points to the same condition of the locality.) ***Yatton Church** deserves careful attention. Though unequal, it is one of the finest of the Somersetshire churches. It is cruciform, with central tower and truncated spire. The chancel, transept, and base of the tower contain portions of earlier date, E.E., Dec., and Early Perp. The nave and N. chapel are Perp., of noble proportions and rich ornamentation. The W. front has a fine window, set between hexagonal corner turrets, with pyramidal caps. Above the window is a Crucifixion, the crucifix being supported by the Eternal Father. Similar smaller turrets flank the aisles. The W. door is rich, with two mutilated statues in the jambs. The S. porch is lofty and elaborately carved (c. 1486). The N. door is placed under an ogee arch. The N. chapel, being loftier than the chancel, and having a lean-to roof, has a singularly awkward effect outside. At the N.E. angle is a staircase turret, with a spirelet of considerable beauty. The nave arcade is very stately, and the details good. The roofs throughout are coved, with lateral featherings in the aisles. The

crossing is low. The N. chapel is full of elaborate work—rich niches flanking the E. window; a good pillar piscina under a canopy; and a fine altar-tomb with a very lofty and elaborate canopy, with effigies of a knight in armour and his lady. Above this in the wall is an admirable alto-relievo of the Annunciation. In the N. transept, erected 1498 by Isabel of Cheddar, wife of Sir John Newton, is the rich altar-tomb of Judge Newton (d. 1449), Chief Justice of the Common Pleas, clothed in his robes, with a collar of SS. round his neck (said to be the earliest example of the use of this decoration on a tomb), and his lady by his side. Under the N. window are 2 ogee-canopied recesses, containing a male and female effigy, apparently removed thither from another place. There is a large hagioscope from this chapel. To the S. of the church stands the stepped base of a once remarkably fine cross, erected 1499 at the cost of £18. The former *rectory*, adjoining the churchyard, is a 15th-century house worth notice.

[A branch of $4\frac{1}{4}$ m. leads to the favourite watering-place of Clevedon. It passes on l. **Kingston-Seymour.** The *Ch.* (restored 1865), of the 14th and 15th centuries, has a good tower and spire. There is a peculiar squint in the S.W. angle of the chancel. A tablet inside commemorates the destructive inundations of 1606 and 1703. On a tombstone is the following strange epitaph:—

"J. H.
He was universally beloved in the circle of
His acquaintance; but united
In his death the esteem of all,
Namely, by bequeathing his remains."

Further on rt. is **Kenn**, the original seat of Bp. Ken's family, which was settled there from the reign of Edward II. until the 17th century, to whom there are tablets in the little church, rebuilt 1861, and a monument with curious effigies to Christopher Ken, 1593.

* **CLEVEDON** (Pop. 5412). This watering-place is a creation of the last 50 years, being the offshoot of a village which has been seated here from a remote time, 1 m. from the sea, under a rocky height called Dial Hill. It is a collection of villas, sheltered by high land on the N.E., and extending over undulating ground above the cliffs of a small bay. S. and W. of it, the country is very flat for some miles, but it is hilly and beautiful to the E.

The places to be seen in the immediate vicinity are *Dial Hill*, *Walton Castle*, and *Clevedon Court*, and at various distances *Cadbury Camp*, the view from *Cadbury Hill*, *Brockley Combe*, *Cleeve Combe*, and the *Cheddar Cliffs*. At the end of the old village is

Myrtle Cottage, to which *S. T. Coleridge* brought his bride, Sarah Fricker, Oct. 4th, 1795, and thus describes it:—

"Low was our pretty cot; our tallest rose
Peeped at the chamber window. We could hear
At silent noon, and eve, and early morn,
The sea's faint murmur. In the open air
Our myrtle blossomed; and across the porch
Thick jasmines twined: the little landscape round [eye.
Was green and woody, and refreshed the
It was a spot which you might aptly call
The Valley of Seclusion!"

The **Old Church**, St. Andrew, on Clevedon Point, "by that broad water of the west," was in early times attached to the abbey of St. Augustine in Bristol. It is cruciform in plan. Its principal feature is the Transition chancel arch. The lower part of the tower and the arch into the N. transept are Norman. The S. transept, externally supported by Dec. buttresses, has a Perp. window to the S. This church contains an incised slab of a knight in a recumbent position, resting his feet upon a dog. There are squints from both transepts. The corbels supporting the roof timbers of the S. transept should be specially noted. In the S. transept are the mural tablets of the Elton family, and of Henry Hallam the historian, and of his wife, daughter, and two sons. Mrs. Hallam was the daughter of Sir Abraham Elton, of Clevedon Court. The name of their elder son, Arthur Hallam, is indissolubly associated with Tennyson's poem "In Memoriam." Mr. Hallam selected this as a burial-place, as he says in the memoir of his elder son, "not only from the connection of kindred, but on account of its still and sequestered situation on a lone hill that overhangs the Bristol Channel." It is to this hill, and to this channel, and to this grave, to which the remains of the old, heartbroken father have since been added, that Tennyson refers in his pathetic lines :—

"And the stately ships go on
To their haven under the hill.
But, oh for the touch of a vanished hand
And the sound of a voice that is still!

"Break, break, break,
At the foot of thy crags, O sea!
But the tender grace of a day that is dead
Will never come back to me."

In the same transept is a memorial brass bearing the name of Hallam's maternal grandfather, the Rev. Sir Abraham Charles Elton, fifth baronet, together with the names of the four preceding baronets ; and a marble tablet, close to the site of the old family pew, records the death by drowning of Hallam's two cousins Abraham and Charles in 1819 at Weston-super-Mare, when Hallam himself was eight years old. This unhappy occurrence has been commemorated in an elegy entitled "The Brothers."

Christ Church is a modern building, standing out conspicuously on the brow of the hill, of which the style may be guessed from its date, 1838. The E. window contains some good old foreign painted glass.

All Saints, East Clevedon, is a beautiful and highly decorated cruciform edifice, consecrated 1860, with a central tower and low broach spire. The windows contain rich modern stained glass. The organ, by Willis, is a remarkably fine one.

St. John the Evangelist, consecrated 1878 as a memorial to the late Lady Elton, from Mr. Butterfield's designs, is a very costly building, with rich stained glass windows and an elaborate reredos.

The **Franciscan Church** is an edifice of stone in the E.E. style erected in 1886. Attached to it are a convent of Franciscan Friars Minor and a convent for women of the Franciscan Missionaries of Mary.

Dial Hill, which rises immediately above the town, commands

a wide and attractive view, embracing the mountains of Glamorganshire, the Steep and Flat Holmes, the Mendips with their pyramidal height of Crook's Peak, and the whole range of Exmoor in the far distance, with its highest point, Dunkery Beacon, a little to the right of the Steep Holme. The Sugarloaf above Abergavenny may also be seen. Pathways conduct to various attractive points of view.

Continuing our walk from this hill along the coast, we descend upon a valley, which, once quiet and solitary, contained only the ruins of old **Walton Church,** with its grey walls and mutilated cross overgrown with ivy, but which has now become a large suburb of Clevedon, known as Walton-by-Clevedon. New houses and villas have rapidly risen, and the ruined church, its dedication changed from *St. Paul's* to *St. Mary's*, with a tall pinnacled tower, has been rebuilt, commanding a wide and attractive prospect. On the lofty hill beyond it are the remains of

Walton Castle, once probably a hunting-seat of the Pawlett family. The ruins occupy the summit of a furzy height between the sea and the woods of Walton Court, and consist of an octagonal wall with a tower at each angle, and, in the area thus formed, an octagonal keep with a tower at one angle. There is little, however, ancient in the appearance of the castle, which was probably erected in the reign of James I. in the mediæval style. The walls are but slightly built, and they are pierced for large windows, which must have commanded magnificent prospects. At the farther end of the hill is a tower which forms an ornament to the grounds of *Walton Rectory*. Beyond it we can descend to a road which has come from Portishead and turns abruptly to the village of

Walton-in-Gordano, with a small modern *Ch.*, standing in a pretty dell among hills affording many beautiful scenes. Here the road from Clevedon to Portishead divides. The higher road to Portishead passes **Weston-in-Gordano,** of which the *Ch.* has some interesting features, and is well worthy of inspection. It is of Perp. date, with excellent E. window, screen, and chancel stalls with misereres, a curious recess apparently intended for a pulpit, and, as at Wraxall Church, the remnant of a small gallery over the S. door within the porch approached by narrow stone stairs. This may have been for the choristers who sang the "Gloria Laus et Honor" on Palm Sunday. Against the N. wall of the nave may be noticed the monument of Richard Perceval, who died 1482, which has been well restored.

A portion of the Old *Courthouse* still remains on the S. side of the church.

From Walton we can return towards Clevedon, and visit

* **Clevedon Court** (Sir Edmund Harry Elton, Bart.), about 1 m. E. of the stat. It was built in the reign of Edward II., remodelled in that of Elizabeth, and much altered at various subsequent periods. It is stated by Buckley to be "unquestionably the most valuable relic of early

domestic architecture in England." It has a fine gabled front, chiefly of the 14th century, with a porch and room over it, and a square-headed window with reticulated tracery. The kitchen and parts of the hall are the most ancient, but the fine oak roof is hidden by a modern ceiling. A newel staircase leads from the hall to the lady's bower, which opens into the upper part of the hall. The solar is above the room now used as the library, which has a rich chimney-piece, erected by the Wake family in 1570. The hall contains a number of family portraits, including one (a copy) of Hallam the historian. Mrs. Brookfield, to whom Thackeray wrote the well-known series of letters, was the daughter of Sir Charles Elton. Thackeray often mentions the Court in these letters, and took it as the original of Castlewood in "Esmond."

Other houses of note are Clevedon Hall (Charles Hill, Esq., J.P.), Mount Elton (Mrs. Saxby), and The Arches (C. W. Cope-Proctor, Esq., J.P.).

3½ m. E. of Clevedon Stat., 2½ m. N. of Nailsea, in the valley, is

Tickenham, a village remarkable for the remains of a *manor-house*, of the early part of the 15th century, built in the shape of an **H**. The hall is nearly perfect, but has a plain modern roof. The domestic offices are in two stories, the upper approached by a newel staircase. The withdrawing-room and some of the upper rooms have remains of rich flat oaken ceilings. The *Ch.* has the unusual dedication of SS. Quiricus and Julietta. The former saint is met with under the name of St. Cyr, France, and to his name is due the second part of the well-known Capel Curig. It is a very interesting study, has a rude Norm. chancel arch, an E.E. S. porch, and a Dec. window studded with armorial shields. In the N. aisle are two cross-legged effigies in chain-mail, temp. Henry III. or Edward I., supposed to be members of the Berkeley family, and one of a female. In the S.E. chapel is some old glass representing the Crucifixion, and the slab of an ancient altar with its dedication crosses still existing is used as the top of the communion table. In the churchyard is the broken shaft of a cross overshadowed by ancient yew-trees.

1½ m. beyond is **Wraxall,** beautifully situated in a hollow under the hill. In the *Ch.* remark the font and the altar-tomb of Sir E. and Lady Ann Gorges, 1512, and the fine late 15th-century cross in the churchyard. There appears to have been at one period a gallery here above the porch, as at Weston-in-Gordano, but that has now disappeared. There is a remarkable stone reading-desk let into the pillar by the font. The *manor house* was a very fine building, but has been modernized except the porch, which bears the characters "S. G., 1658" In the vicinity are *Wraxall Lodge* (A. H. Ford, Esq., J.P.); *Tyntesfield* (Antony Gibbs, Esq., J.P.); *Failand House* (Rt. Hon. Sir E. Fry).

On the hill above Tickenham is

Cadbury Camp, an entrenchment of 7 acres, 190 yds. in

diameter, with two ditches and three ramparts, on the same ridge of hills as Clevedon Court. It is on a commanding point, overlooking the vale of Nailsea on the one side, and of Portbury on the other, and is formed by two ramparts made of loose stones. In driving from Clevedon take the first lane to the left beyond Clevedon Court. Pedestrians should mount the zigzags above All Saints' Church, and keep along the crest of the hill.]

Proceeding again by rly., we cross the Yeo, and continuing our route across the marshy flats, observing how grandly the great outlying islands of limestone rise out of the sea of green pasture, we reach

136¾ m. **Worle** Junct. Stat. A short loop line diverges from here 2 m. to Weston-super-Mare, rejoining the main line beyond. Through carriages from London and chief provincial towns.

*** WESTON-SUPER-MARE** Stat. (Pop. 15,873). This fashionable watering-place is situated on the Bristol Channel, facing S.W. towards the Atlantic Ocean, and sweeping along the shore from the fir-clad rocky heights of Worlebury Hill to Brean Down, on the S. horn of the bay. The slopes of Worlebury Hill are dotted with substantially built villas amongst the trees, and at its base lies the town, with its business streets and shops of all kinds.

Weston-super-Mare commands a charming view of the mountains of Wales, of the 2 islets of Steep Holme and Flat Holme, and of its own rocky heights — Worle Hill above the town, and Brean Down at the S. horn of the bay. The sea, however, here is of a muddy colour, and its retreating waves expose such an extent of ooze that the town has been nicknamed from it Weston-super-*Mud*. But there is a smooth beach of sand. An alluvial level, once a marsh, extends inland to the foot of high hills. On the opposite point of the bay a rugged rock stands islanded in the sea. There is an excellent esplanade 2½ miles in length, with reading-rooms, bazaars, and the usual *agréments* of watering-places. The **Prince Consort Gardens** are just above Anchor Head.

Grove Park, in the centre of the town, once the manorial residence of the Pigott family, is the property of the ratepayers, and is laid out as public gardens, with a band-stand. The Free Library is in the middle of the park. Other similar spots are Clarence Park, the Summer and Winter Gardens, and the athletic grounds near the railway station.

Under the point of Worle Hill lies the rugged little islet of *Birnbeck*, from the middle of October to Christmas the scene of a busy sprat fishery. The capture is effected by nets stretched on poles from the shore to the island, and the fish thus secured are removed at low water when the channel is dry. The operation is worth seeing, especially at night, when the little fish glitter in the beams of the moon. The fishery is pursued along this coast on a considerable

scale. More than £10,000 has been made by it in a season; and a ton of sprats has been sold in Taunton market on a single day.

An iron pier, connecting the rugged islet of Birnbeck with the mainland, was opened in 1867, and forms a most agreeable promenade. A landing-stage at the foot of the island has also been constructed, allowing steamers to disembark passengers at all times of the tide.

At low water Birnbeck is accessible by a rough road known as the *Stepway*. This needs to be traversed with caution. The two sons of Sir C. Elton were caught by the tide here and drowned 1819. (See Clevedon, *ante*.)

The ugly parish *Ch.*, St. John Baptist (rebuilt 1824), stands on the site of the old fabric. A new chancel was added in 1837, and a N. aisle in 1891. The E. window contains stained glass, some of it ancient. On the E. wall of the S. porch is preserved a bas-relief representing the Trinity. The font is old but mutilated. In the churchyard is the stump of a cross. *Emmanuel Ch.* was erected in 1847. *Trinity Ch.* deserves some commendation for its originality, and *Christ Ch.* has a broach spire.

The *Town Hall*, with a feeble clock tower, was the gift of Dean Law, of Gloucester, when rector of Weston.

In the town there are several *intermittent springs* which are influenced by the sea. One at Clarence Lodge ceases to flow when the tide reaches the rocks, and others in the vicinity of Knightstone are variously affected.

Worle Hill rises 357 ft. above the sea. To ascend this hill, we proceed to Anchor Head, the extreme E. point of the town and bay, passing a rock called **Knightstone**, some distance beyond which and the pier we turn up the hill by a path among the firs. It commands a view of the town below, of the Quantocks, the Mendips, the heights about Clifton, and the coast of Wales. But the most delightful walk is along the sea-front of the hill, where a prospect greets us which is certainly among the finest in the W. of England, including, seen through a foreground of firs and dark rocks of limestone, a near view of the Welsh mountains and many distinct ranges in Somerset and the adjoining counties. Hence, too, we can see well the features characteristic of this part of Somerset, viz., the extensive marshy flats, each bounded by hills, and the numerous detached and outlying knolls.

Worle Hill, or *Worlebury*, is about 3 m. in length, but little more than a furlong in breadth. On its summit are remains of a ***camp** of about twenty acres, defended on the E. side by two ramparts of stone, and further protected on the weakest side by no less than seven ditches. The area of the camp is divided into two unequal parts by a ditch running N. and S., the most strongly defended front lying to the W. The whole surface is abundantly indented by hut-circles, the remains of the wigwams of the primitive occupiers of this stronghold. On excavating the hut-circles, arrow and spear heads, remains of the

Bos longifrons, a species of ox known in Britain at an early period, and human bones and skulls much battered and notched, as if a desperate struggle had here occurred, have been found. The Rev. Mr. Warre thinks that this camp was destroyed by Ostorius in the reign of Claudius, and that the Britons were subsequently defeated here in the Saxon irruption under Ceawlin, year 577. Nothing Roman, save coins, has been discovered. From one end of Worle Hill a flight of about 200 rude stairs, called *Kew Steps* or the *Hermit's Steps*, descends to the village of Kewstoke and what was once the shore before the sea receded. Along the top of the pass run the foundations of a building which was probably a military work, but is popularly supposed to have been the hermitage of St. Kew.

Along the flank of this hill a carriage road has been cut through the wood of fir and oak to *Kewstoke*, 2 m., commanding at every part the most delightful views over the Channel and Welsh mountains. Though private property, the drive is open to the public.

Kewstoke Church is an interesting little building, with a Norm. door and stone pulpit, said to have come from Bristol Cathedral. A mural reliquary found here, containing a portion of a wooden cup, stained with blood supposed to be human, and to have been that of St. Thomas à Becket, brought from Woodspring Priory, is now in the Museum at Taunton Castle. A full account of this is given in *Dean Stanley's* "Memorials of Canterbury."

EXCURSIONS.

(a) To Woodspring, Worle, and Wick St. Lawrence.

Woodspring Priory, originally Worspring or Wospring, is about 4 m. N. of Weston, at the farther end of Sand Bay, under a rocky headland called the *Middle Hope*, in a lonely position, in the marshes near the mouth of the Yeo. It was originally founded as an expiatory chapel in honour of St. Thomas of Canterbury, apparently by Reginald Fitz Urse, one of the leading actors in his murder, and converted into a priory of Austin Canons between 1205 aad 1214 by William de Courtenay, grandson and, through his mother, heir of Fitz Urse. The pleasantest way to it is by the road as far as Kewstoke, and then by the shore to the Middle Hope. It is an interesting building, which will reward careful examination. It is entered by a fine double gateway with segmental arches. Passing through this, we find ourselves in a small courtyard, with modern domestic buildings on the N., and the front of the *Ch.* facing us. The W. window (blocked) is flanked by octagonal turrets. The *Ch.* consisted of a nave and chancel and central tower. It is Late Perp., with traces of the original 13th-century work. The tower is a recasting of the earlier structure, of the ordinary Somersetshire type. It is supported on 4 light arches, with a fan-vault, and rises two stories above the roof. The pinnacles are gone. There never were transepts. The chancel is destroyed, and the nave-aisles and crossing have been converted into a farmhouse. The cloister court

was to the S. of the church. The mark of the gable of the dormitory may be seen on the S. wall of the nave; at the opposite end are the remains of its spiral stair turret. The entrance to the chapter-house may be seen in the opposite E. wall. The refectory, to the S., a noble hall, with a good timber roof, 45 ft. by 19 ft., is used as a waggon-house. The Priory Barn retains its corner buttresses and moulded entrances.

Below the E. end of Worle Hill stands the little village of **Worle,** with a restored *Ch.*, possessing a low tower and stumpy spire, S. door of 12th-century work, carved miserere seats, and a stone pulpit.

Wick St. Lawrence, 1 m. S.E. of Woodspring, lies in the rich alluvial flat at the mouth of the Yeo. The small Perp. *Ch.* has a very rich stone pulpit. In an open space at the back of some cottages is a mutilated but stately cross of late 15th-century work.

(b) To Uphill and Brean.

Uphill Old Church, 2 m. S.W., deserted and ruinous, is an object for another short ramble. Pursuing the level road which skirts the shore of the bay, you reach the rocky hill which it crowns. Consisting of a nave, a chancel, and a central tower, it exhibits the architecture of almost every style from Norm. to Late Perp. The Norm. N. porch is one of its chief features.

Uphill is supposed to have been the Roman *Axium*, from which the mining produce of the Mendips was shipped. A Roman road has been traced from here over the Mendips, along Wavery Down to Charter House, by Masbury to Leighton-in-Cloford, where it is lost in what was Selwood Forest, to reappear at Quar Hill on the borders of Wilts, and over the Wiltshire downs to Old Sarum (See *Introduction.*) In the hill on which the church stands is

Uphill Cavern, one of those bone-caves so numerous in the mountain limestone. It was discovered in 1826, and was then filled with the remains of sheep, oxen, pigs, and horses, and of animals long since extinct in this country, such as the elephant, rhinoceros, bear, and hyæna. Many of these bones were indented with the marks of teeth, so that the cavern was, doubtless, at one time a den of wild beasts.

Uphill Church is a notable landmark, and commands an extensive view, particularly towards the S.W., in which direction the eye ranges to the Quantocks across the great *Burnham Level*, resting midway on *Brent Knoll*, which rises from this plain with singular abruptness. It was doubtless once an island in the wide estuary corresponding to the "Holmes" of the Bristol Channel. According to William of Malmesbury, its original name was Insula Ranarum, the island of frogs, and it was infested by three giants "malefactis famosissimi," who were slain in the days of King Arthur by the valiant Ider. Below the hill the river Axe sluggishly creeps to the sea, and at its mouth rises *Brean Down*, where the white cistus did grow, and may, perhaps, still be found, and where a fort has been erected for the protection of the ports of the

Bristol Channel, in connection with other batteries erected on the Flat and Steep Holmes, and one on Lavernock Point. This bold and conspicuous promontory, with precipitous cliffs, is in a direct line with the Steep Holme, another outlier of the Mendip limestone. The sandy beach extends without a break to the embouchure of the Brue, some 7 m. distant.

A delightful ramble may be had on Brean Down, which can be reached from Weston by boat when the tide serves, or by road through Uphill and Bleadon, crossing the river Axe at Hobb's Boat, or by a new road along the rly. Observe the ancient earthworks across the down, the beacon on the summit, and the sites of several British hut-circles.

Brean Church, 2 m. further S., forms a quaint group, with the gabled stump of a tower. The churchyard cross is nearly buried in the sand. The northerly dip of the mountain limestone may be observed in the fractured end of Brean Down.

(c) To Hutton and Bleadon.

Hutton Church, 1½ m. S.E. of Weston-super-Mare Sta., is a small but interesting building, on a slight eminence, possessing a stone pulpit, approached by a stone staircase in the wall, a groined belfry, and brasses to Thomas Payne, "squier," and wife, 1528, and John Payne and his wife, 1496. Hutton Court (A. H. Bisdée, Esq.), an ancient building modernized, with a tower of defence, contains a 15th-century hall, with arched roof and panelled chimney-piece. Above Hutton, S., rises the long, lofty ridge of **Bleadon Hill,** the scene, according to Hearne, of a bloody contest with the Danes. On the W. side are some earthworks. Bleadon was the manor of Earl Godwin's wife, Githa, who gave it to the support of the refectory of Winchester. The *Ch.* on the S. side of the hill has a good pinnacled tower, with a good groined roof, struck by lightning in 1852. It has a low side window, a stone pulpit, a Trans. Norm. font, and in the S. porch a curious bas-relief of the Blessed Virgin Mary and the Infant Saviour, with kneeling figures of a nun and a priest, which may have formed the head of a cross. Two mutilated effigies lie in the churchyard. There are the remains of a cross in the churchyard.

(d) To the Holmes by boat or steamer.

The **Steep Holme** and **Flat Holme** (*holm*, Scandinavian for island), rocky islets off this coast, are objects well known to all who navigate the Bristol Channel, as they stand directly in the course of vessels, and the latter shows a light for their guidance. They are both outlying masses of the mountain limestone of the Mendip range, on the axis of the chain prolonged under the sea, the one being connected with Crook's Peak by the links of Brean Down, Uphill, and Bleadon Hill, the other with Banwell Hill by those of Birnbeck and Worle Hill.

The Steep Holme rises 256 ft. from the sea. It is (or *was*)

known to botanists as the habitat of the *single pæony*. It is a rock about 1½ m. round, very difficult of access. Gildas took refuge here, and wrote his treatise "De Excidio Britanniæ," and it afforded an asylum to the Danes after the defeat at Watchet, and to Harold's mother after the battle of Hastings. A ruined wall marks the site of a priory founded by one of the Lords Berkeley in the 14th century, and there are also the remains of a graveyard.

The Flat Holme, 1½ m. round, with good bathing, is much visited in summer by excursion steamers.

Both islands are provided with batteries, forming part of the line of defence of the Severn fortifications.

(e) To Banwell, 5 m.; see p. 312.

(f) To Clevedon by rail; see p. 250.

(g) To Cheddar, 12 m.; see p. 321.

(h) To Brent Knoll, East Brent, and Lympsham; see p. 269.

Starting again, we dash through a projecting tongue of the Mendips by the deep *Uphill cutting*, which displays an excellent section of the strata, including some igneous rocks. We then enter the alluvial flats, or *levels*, of North Somerset, a district of about 200 sq. m., watered by Drayton's

"Battening, marshy Brent,"

remarkable for fertility, extending from Wells to Bridgwater, and well known for affording some of the most valuable grazing land in England. The Pawlet Hams on the Parrett, between Bridgwater and the sea, are the richest grazing grounds in the county. All these levels are banked from the sea, the coast being higher than the marsh, so that the drainage is inland, and are intersected in every direction by dykes, or *rhines*, for the drainage, and in many places contain extensive beds of peat, often 30 ft. deep, enclosing the horns of the red-deer, and the blackened trunks and branches of oak-trees (locally "underground oak"). Around this great plain of 200 sq. m. are seen what may have been ancient coast-lines with hills projecting as promontories, or standing detached like islands. These break the monotony of the level surface; but intrinsically the district has a certain claim to attention. To a farmer the mere ground that will fatten a bullock on every acre will be probably as attractive as any hillside hung with wood or scarred by unprofitable rocks; but the botanist may also revel among its rare and dainty flowers —such as the *Osmunda regalis* or king-fern, the *andromeda*, the *bog myrtle*, the *asphodel*, and the *sundew;* the entomologist will find many uncommon insects, and the antiquary be rewarded for seeking out its churches and manor-houses. In Tudor and Stuart times the marsh had its "aristocracy," wealthy graziers, whose acres were as numerous as their broad pieces, who farmed their own estates, and lived in the fine old English style in the midst of their herds. Those were the genial days when

"Muster Guy was a gentleman
O' Huntspill, well knawn
As a grazier, a hirch 'un
Wi' lands o' his awn";

"but mangold-wurzel and the swede turnip," says Mr. Acland, "have introduced great changes, and the race no longer exists in its glory." The cone of **Brent Knoll** is seen on the l., rising 457 ft. above the marshes. It is composed of lias, with a cap of inferior oolite; the cap being pretty well defined by the earthworks of an ancient camp, in which Roman coins and other relics have been found. There is a tradition that King Alfred here defended himself against the Danes, and the name of *Battleborough*, at the foot of the hill, is evidence of some fight having occurred here. The Romans took possession of the country between the Avon and the Parrett in the reign of the Emperor Claudius.

3 m. from Weston-super-Mare l. is **Lympsham** *Ch.*, with its leaning tower of the ordinary type of Somersetshire steeples. The parapet belongs to a 17th-century restoration, perhaps after the great storm of 1632; the date 1633 appears on the S. window. The N. aisle has a rich panelled roof. It was probably a chapel connected with an adjoining grange belonging to Glastonbury Abbey. The **Manor House**, used at present as the rectory stands close by. It is a building in the Tudor style, contains some panelled rooms and a large collection of armour. Further on, we pass on the same side of the rly.

East Brent to the N. and *South Brent* to the W. of Brent Knoll, both with interesting churches That of **East Brent** is wholly Perp., with a tower surmounted by a wooden spire, decorated with rudish niches containing a curious series of roughly worked statues, representing the Blessed Virgin and Infant Saviour, the Divine Father holding the crucifix, and our Lord in majesty. The S. porch contains modern frescoes, and has a good carved door. In a window in the S. aisle is the effigy of an ecclesiastic, and there is a second in the N. wall of the nave, which has a curious panelled plaster roof, and an old wooden lectern, and some good bench-ends. The windows contain some ancient stained glass representing the Passion and ascension of our Lord and the coronation of the Blessed Virgin Mary. The chancel is modern. The churchyard cross was restored in memory of the 50 years' ministry in this parish of Archdeacon Denison, whose grave will be found near the gate leading to the school. The *Ch.* of **Brent Knoll** is likewise wholly Perp., with the exception of a Trans. S. doorway, and a Dec. S. transeptal chapel. The nave is long, and has a good arcade to the N. There is a remarkable number of fine bench-ends, with grotesque carvings and poppy heads. Those in the nave represent Reynard the Fox, hanged by the birds, on his trial, robed as a bishop, etc. A curious Jacobean monument commemorates "Jonn Somerset, gent.," and his two wives. The tower is good, and has pinnacles and a pierced parapet. Both the Brents belonged formerly to the abbots of Glastonbury, who had a manor

house at East Brent, taken down in 1708.

The old *Lady Well* was cleared, and another fine spring developed by Archdeacon Denison, vicar of East Brent, who erected reservoirs for supplying the village with pure water from the base of the knoll. During the excavations remains of the old abbots were brought to light.

Crooked Lane leads from this village to the lighthouse near Burnham.

145¼ m. **Highbridge** Stat., the junction for the *Somerset and Dorset Rly.*, which runs on from here to the watering-place of Burnham, 1½ m. rt. Near the *stat.* l. is a new church, conspicuous for its spire and roof, banded with red and black tile.

✲ **[Burnham** (Pop. 2360) is a rising sea-side place. It has a fine sandy beach and promenade, but the sea retires from it 4 m. at low water. ½ m. to the N. is the *lighthouse* to show the entrance of the river Parrett; it is open to visitors on Wednesdays. Burnham *Ch.* is chiefly remarkable for a very stately white marble altar-piece, designed by Inigo Jones for Whitehall Chapel, erected by Sir Christopher Wren in Westminster Abbey, removed for the coronation of George IV., and given by Bp. King, of Rochester, who was then canon of Westminster, to this parish, of which he was vicar. It was many sizes too large for the church, of which it obliterated the E. window. It has been divided recently, and part only is now in the chancel. There is a long nave and chancel, with panelled waggon-roof, and a S. transeptal chapel with two recessed tombs.]

Continuing our route, we keep in view the Mendips, and pass **Huntspill**, perhaps named from "Hun," the leader of the men of Somerset, killed in the battle of Ellandun, A.D. 823, or possibly from *aun* (or *avon*), water, and *pwll*, a pool, the latter being the origin of the many *pwlls* along the W. coast. Huntspill *Ch.* was destroyed by fire immediately after restoration, Dec. 9th, 1878, and reopened, after a second restoration, April 8th, 1880. Little that is old is left, except the pillars and arches reddened by fire. The chancel stalls and all the seats are of carved oak. The font, designed by Sir E. Beckett, was the gift of himself and Lady Beckett. The altar candlesticks were brought from the chapel of Balliol College, the patrons of the living. Passing the isolated knoll of *Pawlet* rt. and the ridge of Poldon Hill l., and traversing *Horsey Slime*, a pasture-land remarkable for its richness, we enter the station of

151¼ m. ✲ **BRIDGWATER** on the outskirts of the town (Pop. 12,436). Bridgwater is seated on the banks of the Parrett, 6 m. in a direct line from the sea, and 12 m. by the course of the river, on the border of a marshy plain which stretches from the Mendip to the Quantock hills. It is an ancient town.

It derives its name—a corruption of Brugie of Walter, erroneously Latinized in documents of the 15th and 16th centuries into "Aquæ Pons"—from Walter of Douai, a Norman baron, on whom the manor, then called Brugie, was

bestowed by the Conqueror. It is a busy town, chiefly of red brick houses, connected by an iron bridge with a suburb called *Eastover*, burnt by Fairfax in 1645. The castle N. of the bridge on the banks of the Parrett was built in John's time, 1201, by Walter de Briwere, who also commenced the bridge of three arches and the haven which were finished temp. Edward I. by Sir Thomas Trivet, one of the King's justices. The earliest charter, confirming those of Walter de Briwere, is one of Edward I. In the reign of Edward IV. the town had lost much of its trade from neglect of the needful repairs of the port.

At the time of the Great Rebellion the castle, which mounted forty guns, and the town were held for the King by Colonel Wyndham, but were taken July 23rd, 1645, by Fairfax. Fairfax, with his army, of which he was the nominal general, but Cromwell the real head, sat down before the town after the battle of Langport, July 11th, 1645. The storming commenced Monday, July 21st, after sermons by Hugh Peters on the day before, who did his work "tam Marte quam Mercurio" (*Sprigge*), and the suburb of Eastover was taken, and, being fired by red-hot shot from the garrison, was burnt to the ground. The old town was surrendered on the 23rd; about 1000 officers and soldiers, besides gentlemen and malignant clergy, marched out as prisoners. There were also taken jewels, plate, and goods to the value, it is said, of £100,000, which had been sent to the castle, supposed to be impregnable, from all parts of the neighbourhood. These were sold in London, giving 5*s*. to each soldier. After the surrender the town was fired, and great part of it burnt. This exploit crowned Fairfax's successes in the west, giving the Parliament a chain of garrisons from the Bristol to the English Channel, and cutting off all communication between the Royalist forces in the west and the rest of England. The news of the fall of Bridgwater was a heavy one to Charles I. who had been repeatedly assured that the place was absolutely impregnable. He refused to listen to any explanations, and regarded its surrender, after less than a week's siege, an utterly inexcusable act. The loss of so important a garrison broke the spirits of the Royalist party, and made all despair.

The Duke of Monmouth was proclaimed king by the Mayor and Corporation in their robes of office at the High Cross, June 21st, 1685. He returned thither, July 2nd, "in circumstances far less cheering than those in which he had marched thence ten days before. At one moment he thought of fortifying the town, and hundreds of labourers were summoned to dig trenches and throw up mounds."—*Macaulay*. Monmouth had his quarters at the castle, which he left for the fatal field of Sedgemoor, 3 m. E., by what is still called *War Lane*, Sunday, July 6th.

The **Church of St. Mary Magdalene**, a large uninteresting structure of red stone, is principally remarkable for its slender spire, which rises to a height of 174 ft. from the ground. The spire has been once struck by lightning. The greater part of the church appears to have been altered or rebuilt about 1420; the N. porch and some of the windows of the nave being older, dating probably between 1327 and 1377. The N. porch is a fine specimen of the Geometrical style. A parvis over it has a window looking

into the church. The very curious squints or hagioscopes in this porch, once commanding a view of the high altar, were shamelessly destroyed during an unhappy restoration in 1851, when many ancient features perished, and a Dec. clerestory was absurdly erected over Perp. arcades. The roof and screens are of black oak. The altarpiece, a Descent from the Cross, is said to have been taken as a prize from a Spanish privateer, and presented to the church by the Hon. Anne Pawlet (so called from his godmother, Queen Anne), M.P. for the borough. It is a good picture of the Bolognese school, but its painter is uncertain. The chancel contains an Elizabethan monument to Sir Francis Kingsmill, 1620; the exterior wall of the N. transept an arched recess with effigies; and the churchyard the tomb of *Oldmixon*, one of the heroes of the "Dunciad," and ridiculed in the *Tatler* as "Mr. Omicron, the unborn poet" (d. 1742), whose dull, unlearned historical works display a strong spirit of Whig partisanship, for which he was rewarded with the collectorship of customs at this port. His criticism was chiefly conspicuous for unscrupulous abuse of Pope and other eminent men of his day.

The modern **Church of St. John** is in the suburb of Eastover, and was built in 1846 by the Rev. J. M. Capes, at a cost of £10,000. In the churchyard a stone marks the burial-place of eighty-eight persons who died of cholera in 1849. This church occupies the site of a *Hospital of St. John*, founded for the support of a community of Augustine monks, and for the entertainment of pilgrims, by the early patrons of Bridgwater, the family of Briwere.

The **Town Hall** is a classical structure, erected 1865. It contains copies of Winterhalter's portraits of the Queen and the Prince Consort, and other pictures. In the Grand Jury Room are three pieces of tapestry, which were formerly at Enmore Castle, and were purchased at the sale of Lord Egmont's property. Behind stands a large music-hall, erected as a memorial of the Prince Consort.

The **Corn Exchange** is a handsome and commodious building, opened 1875.

King Square, once the Castle Bailey, behind the Clarence Hotel, was the site of **Bridgwater Castle,** built by William de Briwere, 1202, but long since destroyed, with the exception of the Water Gate, on the W. quay, and some other fragments forming the wall of a stable in Castle Street, and the bonded cellars at the custom-house. *Castle Field* is memorable as the spot on which Monmouth encamped before the fatal fight of Sedgemoor.

A modernized house in Blake Street, containing within some well-preserved remnants of the original mansion, was the **birthplace** of the gallant **Admiral Blake**, the Republican commander, and successful opponent of Van Tromp. His father was a merchant, and his mother the coheiress of a knightly family. He was born in 1599, but was 50 years of age before he commenced his naval career.

Opposite St. Mary's Church stood, until a few years ago, an old house with carved oak front, said to have been the lodging of Judge Jeffreys during the "Bloody Assize," 1685.

An arched doorway in Silver Street, rt., is supposed to have belonged to a **monastery of Grey Friars,** founded 1230 by the second William de Briwere.

The **Bath-brick works** are by the riverside, about ½ m. above and ½ m. below the bridge; this town being the only place in the world where these articles are made. They are formed of a peculiar mixture of clay and sand, which the flood and ebb tides deposit in turn at the above-named points. The sediment having been removed from the river, is consolidated by drying, and cut into oblong masses, well known as Bath bricks, this name being probably given them from Bath having been the place of deposit where the bricks were stored, and from which they made their way over the kingdom. [Stilton cheese is a similar example of an article of commerce taking its name from the place where it was on sale, though not manufactured there.] The business gives employment to a great number of persons, several million bricks being made every year.

Farther down the river is a **pottery** for coarse ware, formerly the Glass House, in which French prisoners were confined, and above the bridge an *iron foundry*, belonging to the Great Western Railway. There are also large breweries, cement and plaster-of-Paris works. The foreign trade is chiefly with America and Russia.

The **Bore,** or **Eager,** the tidal wave which rushes up the Parrett on the flood of spring tides, is a phenomenon common to the Severn and other tidal rivers, where the rise and fall is very considerable, and the channel funnel-shaped. These causes produce an immediate rise of a large body of water, which hurries onward as an upright wave, its velocity allowing no time for the gradual elevation of the surface by transmitted pressure. After a gale from the W., the Bore is often 9 ft. in height, but it is usually 5 or 6 ft., the entire flow of the spring tide being 36 ft. Fairfax very narrowly escaped being carried away by this tidal wave, July 14th, 1645.

Places in the neighbourhood of Bridgwater.

(a) Chilton Priory, Wembdon, and West Bower Farm.

Chilton Priory, a small modern building, occupying the site of a cell of Glastonbury, furnished as a museum, and containing a number of curiosities, including armour from the field of Sedgemoor, 5¼ m. on the road to Glastonbury, stands on *Cock Hill*, a narrow ridge along which the road runs, commanding on each side the most extensive and interesting views; l. the entire range of the Mendips, together with Brent Knoll, is seen across the intervening fen, called the Marsh, rt. the scarped heights about Langport, the Blackdown and Quantock Hills, the Bridgwater Levels, and Bridgwater itself, with its needle-like spire.

A pleasant walk of 1½ m. through the meadows leads to **Wembdon**. Wembdon *Ch.* was burnt down in 1868, and rebuilt. There is a much-dilapidated churchyard cross, where there is a holy well, dedicated to St. John, arched over with stone, mentioned as a miraculous spring in a mandate from Bp. Beckington, 1464. **West Bower Farm,** in the parish of *Durleigh*, 1¾ m. S.W., standing in the midst of fields, is an interesting old manor house on a small scale, with two towers and a fine old window, and the remains of a moat. It was once the residence of the Dukes of Somerset. There is also a remarkable dove-cot, circular in shape, and built of mud, with nearly 900 nesting-places. Durleigh *Ch.* is small and plain, without aisles, but possesses a Norm. chancel arch. The tower is gabled.

(b) The Quantocks.

A beautiful drive may be taken through *Spaxton* and up *Cockercombe*, a romantic and well-wooded ravine, to the top of the Quantocks, whence the traveller can descend to *Crowcombe* (Rte. 13) or return to Bridgwater through *Nether Stowey* (*ibid.*). (For description of Quantocks see p. 303.)

(c) Sedgemoor and the Three Zoys.

Sedgemoor, 3 m. E., the scene of the defeat of the Duke of Monmouth by the King's forces under the Earl of Feversham, Monday, July 6th, 1685, "the last fight deserving the name of a battle that has been fought on English ground" (*Macaulay*), is a long narrow tract of land S. of Polden Hill, and bounded by the hills of Somerton and High Ham, and divided from the valley of the Parrett by the rising ground of Aller, Middlezoy, and Othery. The battle was fought on the extreme W. edge of the morass, between Bridgwater and Weston Zoyland. It is intersected by dykes, especially the Bussex Rhine, which cut off Monmouth from the army he hoped to surprise, and contributed not a little to the discomfiture of Monmouth's untrained troops, whose guide missed his way in the fog and gloom.

The scene of the battle was between Weston Zoyland, Chedzoy, and Bridgwater. A mound S., Chedzoy, near Brentfield Bridge, marks the place of the interment of the slain. Feversham had his headquarters at Weston Zoyland, where the royal cavalry lay. The Wilts militia were quartered at Middlezoy, under the command of Pembroke. On the open moor, not far from Chedzoy, several battalions of regular infantry were encamped. Monmouth looked gloomily on them. "I know those men," said he. "If I had but them, all would go well." The royal troops, when apprised of the advance of the rebels, fired such a volley as sent the horse flying in all directions. The infantry, though deserted by their leader, who had mounted and rode from the field, made a gallant stand, till their ammunition was exhausted, and the royal artillery (horsed in part by the coach-horses of Bp. Mew, of Winchester) then came up, and the rout was in a few minutes complete, 3000 of the rebels lying dead upon the moor. Before evening, 500 prisoners had

been crowded into the church of Weston Zoyland, whose fine Perp. tower, 105 ft. in altitude, is a conspicuous object from all sides. On the fatal field Feversham commenced those cruel executions which were afterwards so ably carried on by the bloody Jeffreys and Kirke. About 20 were executed after the battle, and the moor between Weston and Bridgwater was marked by a long range of gibbets. A prisoner being pointed out to him as a remarkably swift runner, the Earl induced him, by a promise of his life, to show him an instance of his agility. A halter was fastened round his neck, and attached at the other end to a horse, when, the rider starting away on the gallop, the runner kept even with him for the distance of half a mile along the stream called *Bussex Rhine* to *Brentsfield Bridge*. This feat having been performed, the general, in defiance of his compact, gave an order that the poor man should be hung with his fellows. But another prisoner, if we are to believe the story, was more fortunate. He leapt for his life, and, at the third bound, escaped into an adjoining wood. His name was Swayne, and *Swayne's Jumps*, marked by 3 stones, are to this day pointed out in Loxley Wood, on the Shapwick estate.

Weston Zoyland Church, 4 m. S.E., has a fine and lofty Perp. tower, which should be ascended by those who desire to make themselves masters of the scene of the battle of Sedgemoor (at first called "the battle of Weston"). The nave is of unusual length. The clerestory is full of beauty and grace. On the S. wall is the monogram of Richard Beere, the last abbot but one of Glastonbury, who recast and added to the church. His initials, with a pastoral staff between them, will also be found in some old glass in one of the windows. There is a well-preserved recumbent effigy of a priest.

Chedzoy Church, 3 m. E., has a fine tower, but without sufficient architectural connection between its separate stages. The front bears the initials of Abbot Beere. There are some fine bench-ends of Queen Mary's time. One bears a crowned M. within a garter, with the date 1559. A splendid embroidered cope, discovered a few years since beneath the pulpit, where it had been thrust away some three centuries since, has been cut up into frontals for the communion table. The centre-piece is new, but the rest of the work is very fine. There is also a fine military brass (c. 1490). On a sandstone in one of the S. buttresses, it is said, the axes were sharpened for the battle of Sedgemoor, and from the tower the approach of the royal troops was discovered through a telescope preserved in the Taunton Museum. In a garden near the church is a cross, restored by W. Stradling, 1818. Dr. Raleigh, nephew of Sir Walter Raleigh, Dean of Wells, was rector of Chedzoy. The lamentable sufferings caused by his loyalty, and his murder in his own residence at Wells, are fully detailed in Walker's "Sufferings of the Clergy."

Middlezoy, 6 m. S.E., on the Parrett, has a *Ch.* with a plain, massive tower, oblong in plan, and Dec. chancel with good windows. There is a Perp. oak rood-screen, and a pulpit dating from 1606. A brass commemo-

rates a French chevalier, Louis de Misières, who, after serving 18 years in the British army "with great courage and gallantry," fell at the battle of Sedgemoor, having "behaved himself with all ye courage imaginable against ye King's enemies commanded by ye rebel Duke of Monmouth." Fairfax and Cromwell with their forces were at Middlezoy, July 10th–12th, 1645, after the battle of Langport, and before the storming of Bridgwater.

(d) North Petherton.

3 m. S.W. is **North Petherton,** which has a fine Perp. church of true Somersetshire type, and remarkable for one of the most ornate towers of the same class as Huish, Dundry, etc. There is a clerestory, and it has transeptal chapels and large porches, the whole very well finished. The windows are large, and the chancel roof very good. Under the sill of the E. window is an original vestry, in which are preserved some monumental brasses. There is a 15th-century cross to the E. of the N. porch on a quatrefoiled octagonal base.

(e) Halswell, Goathurst, and Enmore.

Halswell House (H. M. Kemeys-Tynte, Esq., D.L., J.P.), 4 m. W. of Bridgwater, commands a splendid prospect of wooded hill and vale, with views over the sea and the blue ranges in the distance. It contains some carving by Grinling Gibbons and a number of fine pictures by Vandyck, Kneller, Lely, Reynolds, Gainsborough, and others. It is partly of Tudor architecture, but the front was rebuilt in 1869 by Sir Halswell Tynte. A stream runs through the valley, here rippling over stones, there tumbling in a cascade; and charming rides traverse the woods and climb the hills to commanding points of view, occupied by grottoes and temples, one called the *Rotunda*, with Ionic portico, another *Robin Hood's Hut*, and a third the *Druids' Temple*, where the view is gloomy and confined, the water winding silently along. Adjoining the estate is the hamlet of **Goathurst,** with an ancient church containing the monuments of the Halswells and of the Tyntes. "Of the surname of this latter family tradition," says Burke, "has handed down the following derivation. In 1192, at the celebrated battle of Ascalon, a young knight of the noble house of Arundel, clad all in white, with his horse's housings of the same colour, so gallantly distinguished himself, that Richard Cœur de Lion remarked publicly, after the victory, that the maiden knight had borne himself as a lion, and done deeds equal to those of six crusaders, whereupon he conferred on him, for arms, a lion arg. on a field gules, between 6 crosslets of the first, and for motto '*Tinctus* cruore Saraceno.'"

One of the monuments commemorates Sir Charles Kemeys-Tynte (ob. 1785), who sat in seven successive parliaments; another to Sir Nicholas Halswell (ob. 1633) has recumbent effigies of the knight and his wife.

Enmore Castle, rt. of the road, and opposite to Halswell, built by John, second Earl of Egmont (c. 1750), now the property of T.

Palfrey Broadmead, Esq., J.P., D.L., was a curiously constructed and very ugly house, with semicircular bastions and drawbridge on one front and colonnades on the other. The castle was dismantled by the present owner, who erected in its place the present house of **Enmore Park**. Adjoining it is the *Ch.*, with a Norm. doorway, an E.E. chancel, and a fine W. tower. The pinnacled crown of the staircase turret deserves notice. The church has been rebuilt, and in the churchyard are old yew-trees and the shaft and steps of an ancient cross. The estate is situated at the foot of the Quantock Hills. On the S.W. slope of the hill stands **Cothelstone**, 9 m. on the road over Quantock to Taunton, once the manor-house of the Stawels, but now a farmhouse.

(f) Charlinch and Spaxton.

5 m. of deeply sunken lanes from Bridgwater bring us to the village of **Charlinch**, the seat of the once notorious *Agapémone*, "the abode of love," founded by "Brother Prince," and the seat of his dupes, who at one time numbered nearly 200, of whom 5 were clergymen. Most were possessed of property, which they made over to Prince, and lived in the Agapémone, having all things in common. Walls, from 12 to 15 ft. high, enclosed about 5 acres, occupying one of the loveliest spots in the S. of England, looking in one direction across a narrow valley to the Bristol Channel, and in the other to the Quantocks. Over the gateway is a tower on which waved a flag bearing a holy lamb when Brother Prince was at home. The establishment consisted of a chapel with 2 groups of rose-clad cottages standing in a beautiful flower-garden, with hothouses filled with orchids and other rare flowers, and a conservatory where cages of singing-birds hung from orange-trees, under which stood a piano and couches. The chapel, 70 ft. by 30 ft., was devoid of any religious furniture. The chancel was covered with a blue Turkey carpet, and contained blue velvet arm-chairs and sofas and other drawing-room furniture, the place of the altar occupied by a billiard-table, and musical instruments scattered about. "Everything that can charm the senses is sedulously cared for, and games —hockey, cricket, and football— are engaged in, especially on Sundays, with much zeal." In the flourishing state of his fortunes, Brother Prince appeared to the Gentiles in almost royal state, driving out in a carriage-and-four, with postillions and outriders, attended by bloodhounds; but defections and lawsuits have diminished their resources, and they have been reduced to a single-horse vehicle, the bloodhounds and outriders have disappeared, and the delusion is dying out.—"Macmillan's Magazine," Oct., 1867.

The Agapémone is still in existence, and numbers of the community are reinforced from time to time by occasional additions. Prince himself has expired whilst this book is passing through the press.

Spaxton Church, 5 m., contains some very interesting well-carved bench-ends, and an ancient and curious alms-chest. There

is a beautiful canopied cross, with the Holy Rood and other sculptures in the head, of the 14th century. An old *court-house* adjoins the church, and at **Gothelney** (J. H. Cann, Esq.), in the parish of Charlinch, is a mediæval manor house, with tower, fine hall with oak roof and minstrel gallery, once the residence of the Bourne family.

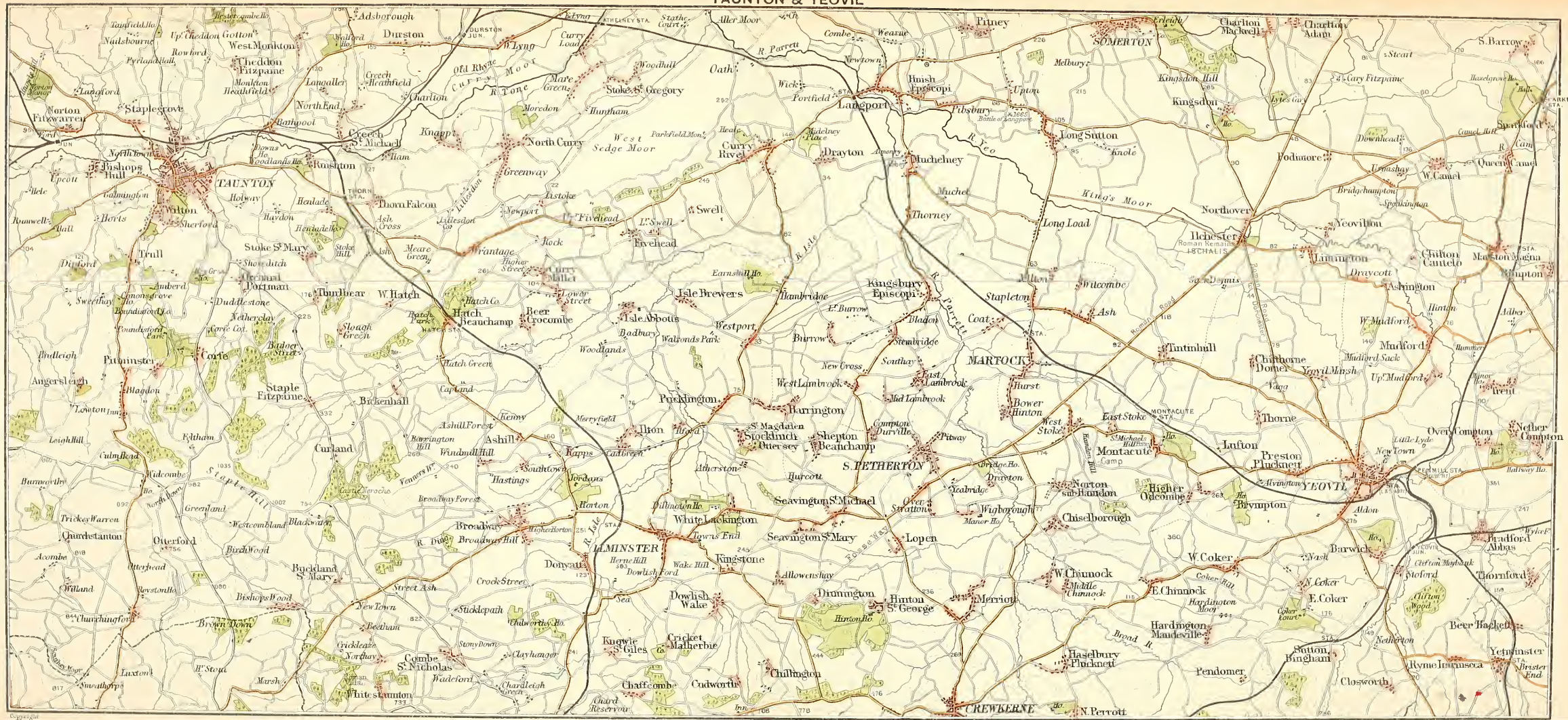
Continuing our route, the rly. pursues its course along the skirts of a hilly country, in company with the river Tone and the Great Western Canal, to

157¼ m. *Durston* Stat., from which a line branches off on the l. to *Yeovil*, 17 m. (Rte. 4). Durston *Ch.* is small, and has good Dec. windows.

163 m. ✻ **TAUNTON** Stat., on the N. side of the town (Pop. of borough 18,026). Taunton is seated on a rising ground above the river Tone, from which it derives its name, and in a rich and picturesque country, its famous vale of *Taunton Dean* being bounded by the wild ranges of the Quantock and Blackdown hills. It is the county town of West Somerset, now, as in Clarendon's time, "the fairest, largest, and richest town in Somersetshire," and has long been celebrated for its healthy position, sunny aspect, broad streets, respectable houses, and beautiful parish churches. At the present day its chief points of interest are its churches and the remains of the castle, and its museum.

Taunton is a town of high antiquity. The discovery of bronze celts, knives, cloak-pins, and other examples of prehistoric art at the Union Workhouse and at Sherford, proves the existence of a British settlement here. The coins which have been found in it sanction a belief that it was a Roman station, and there is no doubt that in Saxon times it became a place of importance. Taunton was founded by Ina, King of the West Saxons, between 710 and 722 as a border fortress to defend his new conquests from the West Welsh. His castle must have been a mere earthwork defended by stockades and ditches, and perhaps some masonry. This fortress was seized by the rebel Albriht, and taken and dismantled by Ina's queen, Ethelburga. A charter in the name of Ethelward, Ina's successor, 737, granting Taunton to the see of Winton, is considered spurious; but there is no doubt that in 904 it belonged to that bishopric, with which it continued connected for many centuries. The castle was built by Bp. Giffard, temp. Henry I. Perkin Warbeck, on his advance from Cornwall, seized the town and castle in Sept., 1497, but he quickly evacuated them on the approach of the troops of Henry VII. He fled for sanctuary at Beaulieu, and having given himself up to the King's officers, was brought back a prisoner to Henry VII., who had reached Taunton Oct. 4th. It was taken and retaken by the contending parties in the Civil Wars, and in 1645 the castle was twice defended with heroic valour by Blake, afterwards the renowned admiral of the Commonwealth. Blake's defence of Taunton was one of the most spirited actions which occurred during the rebellion. Pressed by an army of 10,000 men, who spared no effort to gain the place, he scouted all idea of surrender, even after his ammuni-

TAUNTON & YEOVIL



tion was spent, and his provisions so diminished that, according to the local tradition, told also at Nunney Castle and other besieged strongholds in the county, there was but one hog left in the town, which half-starved animal was whipped round the walls, and made to cry in different places, to deceive the besiegers into a belief that fresh supplies had been thrown in. Blake declared that he would eat his boots before he yielded, and continued to resist after a breach had been made and the enemy had actually gained possession of a part of the town. "Whole streets were burnt down by the mortars and grenades of the Cavaliers. Food became so scarce, that the resolute governor announced his intention of putting the garrison on rations of horse-flesh. But the spirit of the town had never been subdued either by fire or hunger."—*Macaulay*. The first siege was raised May 11th, simply on the intelligence of the approach of Fairfax. In June, 1685, the unfortunate Duke of Monmouth was here welcomed with transports of joy and affection. Damsels of the best families wove colours for the insurgents. A flag, embroidered with emblems of royalty, was offered him by a train of young girls. The lady who headed the procession presented him with a sword and small Bible. On the morning of June 20th he was proclaimed king in the market-place. At Taunton he put forth his proclamations, setting a price on the head of James II., and commanding the House of Commons to disperse as an illegal assembly. After Monmouth's defeat at Sedgemoor, Colonel Kirke and his "lambs" were let loose on Taunton. His memory is still preserved by the name Tangier, of which place he had been governor, borne by a district of the town which had been the chief quarters of his soldiers. Executions, without the form of a trial, commenced. Kirke himself occupied a timber house, still standing, at the corner between the market-place and High Street, formerly the White Hart, the sign-post of which served as a gallows. (The White Hart Inn was some years ago kept by the Mannings, the notorious murderers.) It was believed in London that Kirke put 100 prisoners to death in the week that followed the battle. This irregular massacre was soon followed by no less cruel, but more judicial, acts of barbarity. Jeffreys's "Bloody Assize" began. (The judge's lodgings were till recently pointed out in an old framed house at the corner of High Street and Fore Street, now demolished.) On the judge's arrival, he declared in his charge that it would not be his fault if he did not depopulate the place—a threat which he did his best to carry out. In vain did Bp. Ken write to the King to implore mercy for his misguided diocese, complaining that it was impossible to walk along the highways without seeing some ghastly spectacle, and that the whole air of Somersetshire was tainted with death. The judicial massacre went on unabated. Even the poor children, who had presented the colours to Monmouth, had to purchase their pardon by bribes to the Queen's maids-of-honour, who employed as their agent, not the famous William Penn, as Lord Macaulay has erroneously maintained, but one George Penne, a leading dealer in the infamous slave traffic. At length, to the relief of the inhabitants, the chief justice proposed "to jog homewards," having transported 385 persons and hanged 97.

The *Ch.* of **St Mary Magdalene** is celebrated as one of the

largest and finest Perp. churches in England, and for its magnificent tower, which for beauty of proportions, excellence of workmanship, and elaborate richness of decoration, combined with lightness of effect, holds, if not the very first place, a very high rank among the splendid Perp. towers for which Somersetshire is so deservedly famous. It rises to a height of 153 ft. in 4 stories, the lowest containing a rich doorway, with a holy-water stoup on each side, and a large 5-light window, each of the 3 upper stories lighted with 2 windows, the belfry story elaborately panelled, and crowned by a very light pierced battlement with openwork turrets rising into crocketed spires at the angles. It is hardly possible to exaggerate the union of grace and dignity in this glorious tower. The whole having shown evidence of dangerous insecurity, was taken down to the ground 1858-62, and rebuilt as nearly as possible in facsimile at a cost of £8000, the work being completed in 1862. All the niches are filled with statues. The church is entirely Perp. without, with large windows. On the S. porch is the date 1508.

On entering the church, under the fan-traceried vault of the tower, the visitor will be much struck by the magnificence and harmoniousness both in design and colouring of the interior, which underwent a very munificent restoration, under the auspices of its former vicar, Dr. Cottle, in 1845. The roof is of black oak, richly decorated with polychrome; the clerestory windows are divided by elaborately carved niches; and the whole nave is occupied with well-designed oak seats, accommodating 1400 worshippers. The plan is unusual in having double aisles on each side of the nave. (Other examples of this arrangement are Manchester Cathedral, St. Michael's, Coventry, and Kendal Church, Westmoreland.) The oldest part of the building is seen on the piers of the chancel arch, which show traces of Early Norm. work. The next church erected was of E.E. character (c. 1270). Of this building remain the row of columns dividing the two N. aisles and the 3 easternmost arches supported by them, the easternmost arch of the N. nave arcade, and the piers of both transepts. Late in the 15th century the nave was lengthened by the 3 W. arches; the chancel was erected; the roofs were framed, the tower built; and the church assumed its present form. The visitor will notice the reredos by Street, richly coloured and gilt; the new stone pulpit, decorated with coloured marbles; a splendid niche on a pier of the N. arcade, containing a modern figure; the angels which occupy the place of capitals in the Perp. work; and the number and size of the windows and their stained glass. In the N. aisle of the nave is the coloured effigy, in the dress of his time, of Robert Gray, the founder of almshouses for "ten poore aged syngle women," in 1635, with a curious epitaph worth reading, ending:—

> "What he gave and how he gave it,
> Ask the poor, and you shall have it."

There is a brass plate attached to one of the pillars to Joseph Alleine, the Nonconformist, once minister of this church, with the

nscription, "Holocaustum et Deo et vobis." The carving in the spandrils of the W. door should also be specially noticed.

St. James's Church has a tower (rebuilt 1870), which would be considered a very fine one were it not for the superiority of its neighbour. The church is long and low, and has no chancel arch. It contains a good font, with sculptures of the Crucifixion and the 12 Apostles, and a tablet to Colonel Yea, killed at the head of his troops in the attack on the Redan, June 18th, 1855, in the Crimean War. A little beyond the church, on the opposite side of the street, is a very picturesque group of almshouses, with eaves of great projection, supported on brackets.

St. John's, in Park Street (Sir G. G. Scott), is a fine modern church, built at the expense of Rev. F. J. Smith. It has a tall and well-proportioned tower and spire.

Near the N. side of St. James's Street is the **Priory Barn,** now used as a barn and stables on the Priory Farm, the only remnant of the Augustinian priory, founded 1127 by William Giffard, and augmented by his successor in the see of Winchester, Henry of Blois, brother to King Stephen. The gable end exhibits some windows of Early Dec. date, and a solitary boss, on which are carved 3 swords, conjoined in point, the insignia of the house of Paulet. These are not in their original place, having been inserted when the building was used as a chapel for French prisoners. The jambs still remaining show that a gatehouse was once situated here.

Near the schools, opened in 1868, in Church Square, adjoining St. Mary's Church, have been built a very pretty set of almshouses for 13 old men, founded by Richard Huish in 1615.

The historic memories of Taunton **Castle**, and the unusual interest of its construction, did not avail to preserve its buildings from a period of dilapidation, decay, and neglect, from which they have been happily rescued by the Somerset Archæological Society, by which body they have been purchased and appropriated as their museum. The **Castle Green** is entered by a fine archway, the E. gateway of the outer ward, now incorporated with Clarke's Hotel. King Ina's stronghold (see *ante*) doubtless had more than one successor before the reign of Henry I., when Bp. Giffard is recorded to have erected a castle here. "In Taunton Castle," writes Mr. G. T. Clark, "we have a combination of earthworks dating from the 8th century, walls and keep the work of the early part of the 12th, and towers and gatehouses towards the end of the 13th or early in the 14th century." Bp. Langton executed some additions in 1490, and placed his arms outside the inner gatehouse, 1496. Bp. Horne made some further repairs here in 1557. On passing through the lofty archway, where the portcullis groove may be noticed, we find ourselves on the *Castle Green*, or outer ward, having on the right the southern front of the inner ward, terminating at each end in a drum tower,

of which only the western one remains perfect. In the centre of the front is the gatehouse of the inner ward, a rectangular tower of Edwardian date, with Bp. Langton's Perp. additions. Over the portal is an escutcheon of Henry VII., supported by a griffin and a wyvern, and that of the Bishop with the date 1495, and the motto "Laus tibi, Christe. T. Langton, Winton." Above are seen the holes for the drawbridge chains. On entering the inner ward we have at the N.W. angle the *keep*, a rectangular tower, originally Norm., with Edwardian additions. From the keep tower, running eastward, the *hall* forms the northern side of the court. It was recast by Bp. Horne in 1577, on the site of the original Norm. hall of the castle. The external wall to the N. still shows the flat pilaster buttresses of that period, and the weather-mould of the roof, springing from a much lower elevation, but of a considerably steeper pitch, may be seen on the wall of the keep tower. It was formerly used for the assizes, and is a fine room, 150 ft. by 30 ft., but modernized and spoilt. The castle has been somewhat improved in appearance since the Somerset Archæological Society have employed it as their place of meetings, and for the reception of their collections, but internally it still presents but little air of antiquity. The castle was dismantled at the Restoration, and the moat filled up. The whole underwent a well-intentioned but disastrous repair at the end of the last century by the munificence of Sir Benjamin Hammet, many years M.P. for Taunton.

The **Museum of the Somerset Archæological and Natural History Society**, contained in the Castle, includes the Williams Geological Collection, containing a store of palæozoic fossils from West Somerset, Devon, and Cornwall; the fossils of other formations; saurians from the lias quarries at Street; and the bones of animals from the limestone caverns, including those collected by Mr. W. Beard at Banwell. Here also are preserved tessellated pavements found at East Coker and at Pitney; the reliquary from Kewstoke Church, supposed to contain Becket's blood (see *ante*, p. 261); a collection of rubbings from brasses; various mining implements of the Romans, found in old shafts on the Quantock Hills; the "large dish of Persian ware" set before Lord Feversham when quartered in the mansion of the Bridges at Weston Zoyland, mentioned by Macaulay ("History of England," i. 604), and the telescope with which the approach of the King's troops was discovered from the tower of Chedzoy Church; and the drawings, presented to the county by the late Mr. Pigott, of the English abbatial and collegiate seals by *Howlett*, and of the Somersetshire churches, monastic and castellated ruins, ancient and modern mansions, crosses, town halls, etc., by the Messrs. *Buckler*, 1827-47.

The **Town Hall** and **Market House**, built 1772, occupy a central position in a large open triangular market-place called the *Parade*. A new town hall is about to be erected (1898). From this point the main streets

diverge, the High Street terminating at an iron fence which encloses the grounds of *Wilton House*, the seat of the Kinglakes.

The **Taunton Literary Institution** occupies an Ionic building on the W. side of the Parade.

The **Corn Market** occupies a Grecian-Doric building, N. of the Literary Institution.

The **Shire Hall**, in Upper High Street, is a handsome edifice, in the Perp. style.—Moffat, *Arch.* It was opened for the transaction of assize and county legal business in 1858. The entrance-hall displays a series of fine marble busts of Somersetshire worthies, including the celebrated *Admiral Blake; Locke*, the philosopher; *Captain Speke*, the African discoverer; *Pym; Bp. Ken; Dr. Thomas Young*, the investigator of the laws of light, and decipherer of hieroglyphics; *Dr. Henry Byam*, the Somersetshire loyalist; *Lord Taunton; Charles Summers*, the sculptor (b. at Charlton 1827, d. 1878), erected chiefly through the exertions of R. A. Kinglake, Esq. A bust of *Colonel Chard*, the hero of Rorke's Drift, has recently been added.

The *High Cross* was re-erected 1867, at the expense of Dr. Kinglake, in memory of his parents.—Giles, *Arch.*

The vicinity of Taunton abounds in educational establishments. There is a Church of England proprietary college at Mountlands; the Wesleyans have a college on the Trull road, and the Congregationalists have a handsome building devoted to the same purpose near the rly. stat.

Taunton was once famous for its manufacture of serges, which were largely exported to Spain. Fuller describes them as "eminent in their kind, being a fashionable wearing, as lighter than cloth, but thicker than many other stuffs."

It still has a small manufacture of silk, also of gloves and collars, and of agricultural implements. It is also a great agricultural centre, being seated in a district remarkable for fertility. "The vale of Taunton," says old Fuller, "is so fruitful, to use their own phrase, with the *zun* and *zoil* alone, that it needs no manuring. The peasantry therein are as rude as rich, and so highly conceited of their own country that they conceive it a disparagement to be born in any other place." Hence the Somersetshire proverb —"Ich was bore at Taunton Dean; where should I be bore else?"

> "What ear so empty is that hath not heard the sound
> Of Taunton's fruitful Dean, not matched by any ground?"
>
> *Drayton.*

The vale is particularly famous for its apples and cider.

Taunton was the native place of *Samuel Daniel* (b. 1562), a poet and historian; *Henry Grove* (b. 1683), a Nonconforming divine, tutor of the Dissenting Academy at this town, and a contributor to the "Spectator"; *Alleine*, author of the "Alarm to the Unconverted," was minister of St. Mary Magdalene; he died 1668, at the early age of 35, after his liberation from a long confinement in Ilchester

gaol. His epitaph simply records:—

"Here Mr. Joseph Allein lies,
To God and you a sacrifice."

A. W. Kinglake, Esq., author of "Eothen," and the historian of the Crimean War, was also born at Taunton.

The principal residences in Taunton are *Pyrland*, formerly the seat of the Yeas, now the residence of Mrs. E. K. Withington; *Lyngford* (Mrs. Allen); *Belmont* (S. V. P. Michell, Esq.).

Other seats in the neighbourhood are *Hatch Park* (Lt.-Col. the Hon. H. P. Gore-Langton, J.P.); *Norton Manor* (W. G. Marshall, Esq., J.P.); *Heatherton Park* (T. Starkey, Esq.); and *Walford* (Mrs. Meade-King).

Places in the Neighbourhood of Taunton.

(a) **Hestercombe,** the seat of the Hon. E. W. B. Portman, is situated at **Kingston St. Mary,** 3 m. from Taunton, nestling in a picturesque dell on the S. flank of the Quantocks. It was part of the possessions of the abbey of Glastonbury temp. Edward the Confessor, but was given to the Bishop of Coutances by William the Conqueror, and subsequently came into the hands of the bishops of Winchester, passing to the Warres at the end of the 14th century. A two-handed sword, stated to have been taken from King John of France at the battle of Poitiers by the father of the first possessor of Hestercombe, John de Warre, is still preserved. It bears the inscription, "En gladium Johannis Galliæ, R." From the Warres it passed by marriage to the Bampfyldes. The buttresses of the hall and some Elizabethan windows are the only relics of the old mansion. The igneous rock protrudes here.

The *Ch.* has a fan-tracery groined S. porch, one of the finest of west country towers, with numerous carved niches in the walls, buttresses adorned with pinnacles, and a light parapet of open work. The pillars of the nave are Trans. A considerable portion of E.E. work remains, but the whole church has been recast in Perp. times, and the chancel has been almost entirely rebuilt. In the S. aisle is a fine Dec. altar-tomb of the existing family of Warre of Hestercombe, covered with a magnificent slab of Devon fossil marble. The two western bays of the S. aisle form what is known as the "Tetton Aisle," and contain some excellent wood carving, dated 1522. Beyond the village a walk of 2 to 3 m. leads up the wooded head of the valley to a summit overlooking the Bristol Channel. The valley of Kingston is celebrated, even in West Somerset, for its cider. It was the custom till within the last few years for rustics on Christmas Eve to go to every orchard and "sing to the apple-trees" to make them abundantly fruitful; expecting in return money, or, what they liked better, cider. The only scrap of their song recoverable is:—

"We wish you right good luck and jolly well said" (wassail).

A tree called the "Kingston black apple" produces here the best cider fruit.

Tetton (F. H. Cheetham, Esq., J.P.) and *The Grange* (Mrs. Eden) are in this parish.

(b) **Trull,** 2 m. S.W., has a small Perp. *Ch.*, with W. tower of earlier date, and S. porch, which deserves to be visited for the abundance of rich and unaltered woodwork, showing the closing struggle between the Gothic and Renaissance styles. The whole is heavily rich, without grace but without coarseness. The pulpit is marvellously rich, and has figures of St. John and the 4 Latin Fathers in elaborate niches. The rood-screen and loft are perfect and singularly gorgeous. The bench-ends are much varied, and demand careful study. One bears the inscription, "Simon Warman, maker of this work, A°.D^{ni}. 1560, John Waye, Clarke here." Amongst other carvings is a series representing the participants in the Sunday morning procession to mass, viz., (1) a cross-bearer in cotta; (2) torch-bearer, also in cotta, with slashed trunk-hose; (3) sub-deacon with maniple; (4) deacon with the book of the gospels; (5) priest in alb and cope with missal. The E. and S. windows of the chancel contain some painted glass of remarkable excellence, and quite untampered with. In the E. window are the Crucifixion, the Blessed Virgin Mary, and St. John; in the S., St. Michael, St George, and St. Margaret, each vanquishing their respective dragon.

Gatchell House (J. C. Allen-Jefferys, Esq., J.P.).

2 m. S. of Trull is **Pitminster.** The *Ch.* is Perp., with an octagonal belfry and a spire. E. of the N. aisle is a chapel with piscina belonging to the Helyars, owners of Poundisford. On either side of the chancel is an altar-tomb. with effigies of man and wife and children playing below. A third, now in the baptistery at W. end of N. aisle, is an altar-tomb with an effigy of Coles, the original grantee of Barton Grange at the dissolution. **Poundisford Lodge** is an interesting house. **Poundisford Chase** (about 300 acres) was a hunting-ground of the Bishop of Winchester, lord of the manor of Taunton Dean. Early in the 15th century, one Hill, a Taunton merchant, obtained a lease of a parcel of the Chase, and built Poundisford Lodge. Hill had two sons. The elder went to foreign parts, and returned to find his father dead, and his brother in possession of the property. The elder brother then obtained a lease of another parcel of the Chase, and built Poundisford Park. It seems to date from the time of Elizabeth, but was obviously renovated later. It contains some good ceilings, and in the hall are the royal arms in relief, with the letters R.E. In the same parish is **Barton Grange,** once a grange of the Prior of Taunton. The Priors' Walk and the Monks' Walk retain their names.

(c) At **North Curry,** 6 m. E. of Taunton, a curious Christmas feast, called the "Reeve's Feast," now extinct, is said to have been held from the time of King John, by whom the gift of the manor to the Dean and Chapter of Wells by Richard I. was confirmed. An account of the customs observed

on the occasion is inscribed on a marble tablet in the vestry-room of the church. The dinner used to take place at the Reeve's house, and among the dishes was a large mince-pie ornamented with an effigy of King John. Two candles, weighing a pound each, were lighted, and until they were burned out the company had a right to sit drinking ale. The *Ch.* is a very fine structure of the 14th century, largely re-cast in the 15th, cruciform, with a low central octagonal tower, and a very good chancel. The N. door is Norm. The rides and drives in this vicinity are most attractive.

(d) The **QUANTOCK HILLS** form a heathy range extending from Taunton northward to the sea, at an elevation of from 1000 to 1100 ft., rising to 1270 ft. in Will's Neck, the highest point. They are steep on the W. side, but on the E. the declivities are more gradual, descending into winding, romantic valleys, such as those of the *Seven Wells* and the *Hunter's Combe*, favourite scenes of Wordsworth and Coleridge when they resided in their younger days at Stowey and Alfoxden (Rte. 13). The chain is mainly composed of the Devonian or grauwacke slate, which is islanded, as it were, in the new red sandstone forming the vales which surround it.

An *excursion* may be made to *Crowcombe* (pictures) and to the summit of *Will's Neck*, or to the *Wellington Column* on the Blackdown Hills. (For further descriptions see pp. 504 *et seq.*)

Starting again by the rly., we proceed up the course of the Tone towards the Blackdown Hills.

165¼ m. **Norton Fitzwarren** Stat.

[From this place the Devon and Somerset line branches off by Milverton and Dulverton to Barnstaple, also the West Somerset by Williton and Dunster to Minehead (see Rtes.).]

At **Norton Fitzwarren** (2½ m. on the road to Milverton) is a fine earthwork on the hill above the church. It is of 13 acres, and formed by a ditch with an external and internal rampart. According to the local legend it was once the haunt of an enormous serpent, which for a long time devastated the surrounding country, and whose ravages are supposed to be portrayed in the carving of the rood-screen of the adjoining church. It was probably a British town, occupied by the Romans, long anterior to the existence of Taunton. According to the old local rhyme,

> "When Taunton was a furzy down,
> Norton was a walled town."

Norton Fitzwarren *Ch.* is chiefly of a late 14th-century date, the chancel containing traces of earlier work. The tower has a singular triple set of gargoyles. The S.W. corner of the churchyard was a favourite burying-place for gipsies, who were brought from all parts of the country. The very fine rood-screen (c. 1500) has a carving of two dragons and a plough drawn by three oxen in the centre. It also bears the name of Ralphe Harris, churchwarden.

Some of the bench-ends are worthy of notice. Near here are *Montys Court* (Wyndham Slade, Esq., J.P.) and *Norton Manor* (W. G. Marshall, Esq., J.P.).

166½ m. rt. **Hill Farrance Church** has a low tower (c. 1420), a good piscina, credence, and sedilia, temp. Edward I., and fine oak benches. The S. chapel was built by William de Vernai (*ob.* 1333), who is buried there. The little church of **Oak**, 1 m. further to W., is not unworthy of a visit. It contains a window with some old glass in it said to have been brought from Taunton Priory, and some Flemish woodwork.

167½ m. l. **Bradford Church**, prettily placed on a wooded bank overlooking the Tone, which is here crossed by a good mediæval bridge of 2 arches, deserves notice. It has some Norm. remains, an E.E. chancel arch, a font on a Norm. base, and an effigy of a hip-belted knight, temp. Richard II. *Bradford Park* (Maj.-Gen. J. Williamson). **West Buckland**, 2 m. further S., has a *Ch.* with Norm. features. The nave is Perp. The chancel arch is curiously corbelled into the massy piers. The font is Norm.

168 m. l. we pass *Heatherton Park* (T. Sharkey, Esq.), and directly afterwards, on the rt., *Nynehead* (W. A. Sanford, Esq., D.L., J.P.), where we gain a distant view of an isolated knoll crowned by *Willet Tower*, a conspicuous landmark, 8 m. N.

170 m. *Wellington* Stat., near Nynehead, and ½ m. N. of

✲ **WELLINGTON** (Pop. 6808). This market town is seated on a gentle elevation, in a country of hill and dale, at the foot of the Blackdowns, which are here crowned by the Wellington Monument. It is built chiefly of red brick, and has a handsome town hall and church.

The *Ch.* is Perp., with the exception of the chancel, which is E.E., with an E. window of 3 lancets, with quatrefoils above. The tower is a fine one, of the local type, with a stair turret running up the centre of the S. side, dividing the belfry windows. The nave is lofty, with light arcades, and a high clerestory. There is an elegant canopied piscina in the chancel, and a piece of sculpture on the N. side, which may have been connected with an Easter sepulchre. There is a fine tomb to Sir John Popham, Lord Chief Justice in the reign of Elizabeth, and a benefactor to this town. He is represented by the side of his lady in the judge's dress of the period (1607).

Wellington had the honour of giving title to the conqueror of the Peninsula and Waterloo, the victory of Talavera raising Arthur Wellesley to the peerage as Viscount Wellington, of Wellington, in the county of Somerset. In the Rebellion the inhabitants of this town exhibited such activity on the side of the Parliament that *Wellington Roundheads* were long afterwards proverbial.

The town has a manufacture of woollens, the mills being worked by the neighbouring river and the water of the canal.

The **Wellington Monument** (the key is kept at a house nearly ½ m. from the monument) is 2½ m.

S., on the lofty height (900 ft. above the sea) which rises from the town, and where annually a busy fair is held on the 15th of June. The monument is a triangular stone tower, erected by a county subscription, to commemorate the victories of the great Duke. The original intention was to crown it with a bronze statue of the great Duke. The site commands an extensive prospect. A roadway descends the S. side of the hill to the village of *Hemyock*, 2½ m., seated on a trout stream, in a true Devonshire valley, and containing some remains of a Norm. castle.

Scythe-stones are procured from quarries on the Blackdown Hills. They are concretions of the greensand, which are found in layers associated with organic remains. *Robin Hood's Butts* is the name by which some huge heaps of flints, evidently funereal, on Blackdown, are known.

The principal residences in the immediate vicinity besides those mentioned below are *Old Court* (Colonel J. O. Bovill); *The Cleve* (J. H. Fox, Esq., J.P.); *The Court* (T. Fox, Esq.); *Linden* (S. Fox, Esq., J.P.); *The Priory* (F. H. Fox, Esq., J.P.); *Foxdown* (F. T. Elworthy, Esq.); *Shuteleigh* (Major C. H. Fox, J.P.).

PLACES NEAR WELLINGTON.

(a) **Cothay Manor House,** in a secluded situation, 4 m. from Wellington Stat., in the parish of Kittesford, is a very interesting building, with its mediæval hall, ruined gateway, and out-buildings. It was erected in the reign of Henry VIII., but one wing has since been pulled down.

(b) **Greenham Manor Farm,** 2 m. beyond, has a handsome porch of the date of Edward III., and other remains of the domestic architecture of that period.

(c) The hilly road, or rather lane, from Wellington to Milverton (5 m.) is one of the prettiest in Somersetshire. It gradually ascends towards Exmoor, between tangled hedges, through a thickly wooded country. In 1 m. from Wellington it passes on rt. **Nynehead Court** (W. A. Sanford, Esq.), an old-fashioned house, built at many different times, but with little of the old work remaining.

Nynehead Church is of Early Perp. date, but much rebuilt, containing a fine screen and good monuments to the Clarkes of Chipley. A former rector, Rev. J. Sanford, adorned the walls with specimens of della Robbia and other Italian ware.

2½ m. **Chipley Park,** the site of an old hall, in which Locke wrote a part of his "Essay on the Human Understanding," first sketched out at Oxford, and finished in Holland. His manuscript, written in a very neat hand, and a large number of his unpublished letters, are now preserved at Nynehead by Mr. Sanford, the owner of Chipley

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Leaving Wellington by the rly., we look our last at the pleasant face of Somerset, as in little more than 3 m. we rush through a tunnel through *Whiteball Hill* into the adjoining county (Hdbk. for Devon).

ROUTE 3.

YATTON, BY AXBRIDGE AND CHEDDAR, TO WELLS AND GLASTONBURY.

(*Cheddar Valley Branch of G. W. Railway.*)

RAIL.	PLACES.
	Yatton.
1½ m.	Congresbury.
4½ m.	Sandford and Banwell.
5¾ m.	Winscombe.
8 m.	Axbridge.
9½ m.	Cheddar.
12 m.	Draycott.
14 m.	Lodge Hill.
16½ m.	Wookey.
17¾ m.	Wells.

This line leaves the Bristol and Exeter section of the G.W. Rly. at Yatton Junct., meets the Somerset and Dorset Rly. at Wells, a distance of 17¾ m., and runs on to Witham, on the Wilts and Somerset branch of the G.W. Rly. The rly., leaving Yatton, crosses the Yeo near

1½ m. **Congresbury** Stat. (pronounced Coomsbury).

Congresbury is asserted in the *Glastonbury Chronicle* to have been an episcopal see founded as early as A.D. 167 (the existence of which, however, according to Mr. Haddan, rests on very questionable evidence), transferred (c. A.D. 767) by Daniel to Wells. According to an unhistorical tradition preserved by Capgrave, it derives its name from St. Cungar, the son of an emperor of the East, who, it is said, to avoid a marriage which his father sought to force on him, fled to Britain, and, finding in the dreary marshes of the Yeo the perfect solitude he desired, founded a hermitage and oratory here, A.D. 711. The land round his cell was given him by King Ina, and he established a college here with 12 canons, where, according to Capgrave, he taught "Angligenis et Wallensibus," and was called "Docwinni, a docendo." St. Cungar (so runs the tale) went a pilgrimage to Jerusalem, where he died, but his body was brought back and buried at Congresbury. A singular method of distribution of the common lands in this parish, now obsolete, is described in Mr. Gonne's "Village Community."

The church and ancient vicarage-house call for attention. The *Ch.* has a fine stone spire, perhaps the best in the county, forming a very pleasing object in the surrounding country. The arcades are E.E., but not alike, those on the N. being somewhat the later, verging to Dec. There is a fine wood roof and good rood-screen. The font is E.E., with a modern base. The peal of bells is remarkably fine. The parsonage was built by the executors of Bp. Beckington (c. 1445). The porch displays a curious imitation of E.E. toothed work, with the arms of the prelate. There are a good 15th-century cross in the centre of the village, and the remains of another of the 14th century in the churchyard. *Woodlands* is the seat of Colonel W. Long, J.P.

[**Wrington**, 2 m. E., 4 m. S.E. of Yatton Stat. (which takes its name from the stream which runs through it, now known as the Yeo, but spoken of as the "Wring" in the ancient terriers of Glastonbury), is famous for the

tower of its *Ch.*,* perhaps the finest of all the towers for which Somersetshire is so celebrated. The lofty nave, with its clustered pillars and foliated capitals; the shafts, carried up, and supporting angels with shields; the fine Perp. windows and clerestory, present a whole rarely equalled in parish churches. There is a fair carved oak screen. The Dec. chancel is small and inferior, with a 5-light E. window of unusual design. At the end of the nave is a curious bell-cot. The tower is one of grand simplicity, with beautiful details and fine masonry, having a stone groined roof and a fine W. window. It is 140 ft. high, and is crowned with 16 pinnacles. The tenor of the peal is one of the grandest bells in the county, weighing 2 tons. In the church is a tablet to Hannah More, who, with her sisters, lies buried in the churchyard. She lived at **Barley Wood**, a very pretty cottage, built by her in 1800 (now belongs to H. H. Wills, Esq.). Here Lord Macaulay learned to love that west-country scenery to which he reverted with such delight in his later days. His letters from Clifton tell how well he remembered every feature of the scenery, from the urn in the garden of Barley Wood to the tower of Cheddar Church. Wrington is distinguished as the birthplace of *John Locke* the philosopher, author of the "Essay on Human Understanding," b. 1632, in a house until recently standing near the church. His birth here was accidental, his mother having been taken in labour while worshipping in the church. His father had a small landed property in Stanton Drew parish. He became a captain in the Parliamentary army, and was killed at Bristol, 1645. The entry of Locke's baptism is in the parish register. The Rev. W. Leaves, composer of the air to Lady Ann Lindsay's ballad of "Auld Robin Gray," was rector of Wrington. The little town is beautifully situated under the hill of *Cleeve Combe.*

1 m., in the vale of the Yeo, is *Cowslip Green*, where Hannah More resided before she removed to Barley Wood.]

Crossing the wide marshy meadows intersected by rhines, we reach

4½ m. **Sandford** and **Banwell** Stat. The town of **Banwell** lies 1 m. from the stat., in a pretty situation under Banwell Hill. This limestone height has been long known for its *bone-caves*, in which have been found the remains of the bear, with those of the buffalo, deer, wolf, fox, and other animals. The bones of these creatures were embedded in a floor of hardened mud, and are supposed to have been collected by beasts of prey, which made the cavern their den. A fine collection of these bones, formed by a local geologist, Mr. Beard, is in the Museum at Taunton. There are 2 chambers, of which the larger is about 60 ft. in breadth and 40 ft. in height, the floor sloping downward 150 ft., when it terminates in a petrifaction called the *Bishop's Chair.*

The greater part of Banwell Hill, including the bone-caves, is the property of Major Law, whose residence is called *The Caves.*

A *tower* was erected on the highest part of the hill by Lord Auckland when Bishop of Bath and Wells. To the S. are seen the loftier heights of *Wavering Down* and *Crook's Peak*, which with Banwell Hill and Brean Down form the W. points of the Mendips. S. of the village, on a spur of the Mendips, are two camps.

According to Leland, an abbey existed at Banwell in the time of Alfred, of which his biographer, Asser, was abbot. It was given by William the Conqueror to the see of Wells. It was sold by Bp. Barlow to Protector Somerset, but restored by Mary. A manor house was built by Bp. Beckington on the site apparently of the ancient foundation, of which some remains exist in **Banwell Court**. It was mostly rebuilt in 1870, but the chapel, in which Bp. Drokensford executed charters, and one or two adjoining rooms as well as part of the hall, are still in existence. *Tower Head House* was built by Bp. Godwyn in 1584 as a summer residence. The front bears the Bishop's arms and a canting motto: "Godwyn. Wyn God, wyn all."

***Banwell Church** is, for its nave and aisles, one of the most thoroughly beautiful of its class to be seen. "The proportions of the aisles and clerestory are absolutely perfect. The turrets at the E. end of the nave are very noble."—*E. A. F.* The belfry is richly groined. The chancel screen has fan-tracery vaulting. There are a fine stone pulpit and carved oak seats, also an excellent wood screen and rood-loft, which has been regilt. The chancel is inferior. The E. window has ancient stained glass, much restored, and there is some good old glass in the E. windows of the N. and S. aisles, and there are several modern painted windows. The fine font is E.E. There are a curious brass to a physician, John Martock, 1503, robed as an ecclesiastic, in cope and surplice, with cassock under, and a female effigy, Elizabeth Blandon, 1554, with a wired headdress. The tower is a very fine one, with rich pinnacles and parapets. In the course above the W. window are two ancient figures of saints in niches, and below them a blocked window, in the lower part of which, on each side, is a lily-pot.

[Other bone-caves may be found at *Hutton*, 3 m. W.; at *Uphill*, 5 m. W., almost under the church; at *Sandford*, 2 m. N.E.; and at *Loxton*, 3 m. S. (where the quaint old *Church*—Norm. and E.E., with a square tower on the N. side—stands on an elevated site commanding a view of Crook's Peak. In the porch is a remarkable squint. The pulpit is carved from one block of stone. There is a 15th-century mutilated cross in the churchyard).]

Churchill is 1¾ m. on the other side of Sandford Stat. from Banwell. *Churchill Court* (A. H. Giles, Esq.), close to the *Ch.*, was the seat of a family of the same name, from a cadet of which the famous Duke of Marlborough sprang. The *Ch.* is of the usual local type, with a plain tower and groined belfry. The monuments are interesting, including one to Thomas Latch (d. 1644), who is

represented in a buff-coat, boots, and spurs, gazing on his wife in a shroud. The quaint inscription, said to have been written by Dr. Donne, closes thus:—

"The risen Christ doth us assurance give,
He 'll raise this grave, and we with Him shall live,
He rich in grace, though poor in stable cratch;
So have ye here her laid up, Sarah Latch."

This monument was renovated 1884.

There are a good brass to Ralph Jenyns and his wife, 1572, said to have been ancestors of Sarah Jennings, Duchess of Marlborough, and two recumbent effigies, one cross-legged, the other of a female, once in a mortuary chapel at the E. end of the S. aisle, but now in the porch.

[From Churchill the old high-road from Bristol to Bridgwater runs along the northern flank of the Mendips. This remarkable range of hills consists of mountain limestone, raised by volcanic action from the bed of an ancient sea, dipping N. and S. on each side of 3 or 4 parallel axes of elevation, composed of old red sandstone, the limestone beds being placed like sheets of lead on the boarded roof of a church. Mines of lead and zinc were worked here by the Romans—whose refuse-heaps, subjected to improved smelting processes, have yielded a large quantity of the former metal—and are so still, but scantily. The range of hills is 20 m. long, and from 3 to 6 m. wide, and from 200 to more than 1000 ft. high. The fractures and dislocations attending this violent upheaval are to be seen at Cheddar, Brockley, Goblin Combe, and the gorge of Avon. A few vents discharging igneous rock are to be seen at Hestercombe, on the N.W. shoulder of Broadfield Down, above Brockley Combe, and near Uphill, in the rly. cutting.

Immediately above Churchill is the remarkable encampment, or rather fortified town, of **Dolbury,** crowning a spur of the hill, overhanging a ravine which divides it from Sandford Hill. It is a pre-Roman camp, 540 yds. long by 220 yds. broad, enclosing an irregular area of 20 acres, protected by a rampart and a fosse. A square camp, probably of Roman construction, lies within the area. The former is a continuous mound of unhewn limestone, forming an uncemented wall like that at Worlebury. A local rhyme, as old as Leland's days, makes it the depository of hid treasure:—

"If Dolbury digged were,
Of gold should be the share."

½ m. l. of Burrington is **Langford Court** (Evan Llewellyn, Esq., M.P.), originally a hunting-seat of the Capels, Earls of Essex. It was modernized by Dr. Whalley, who sold it, 1804, to the Rt. Hon. J. Hiley Addington, brother of Lord Sidmouth. Beyond it, on the slope of the Mendips, is **Mendip Lodge,** built by Dr. Whalley, the friend and correspondent of Hannah More, a beautiful place, deeply bosomed in wood. The grounds once contained 52 grottoes, one for every week in the year, but some have ceased to exist, and the terrace walks command enchanting views. Mrs. Siddons was a frequent visitor here.

2¾ m. E. from Churchill is **Burrington,** the *Ch.* of which has a low tower with spirelet, and good windows and arches in the nave. It contains monuments to the Rt. Hon. Hiley Addington, and to Mrs. Jackson, shipwrecked off Dunkirk, with an epitaph by Hannah More. From the village a romantic ravine, *Burrington Combe*, leads to *Black Down* and *Beacon Batch*, 1067 ft. above the sea. In Burrington Combe Toplady composed "Rock of Ages" whilst taking refuge from a thunderstorm in a cleft in a rock. The little road in this valley is margined by fine turf, and ¼ m. above the village is the mouth of a cavern, with a sanded floor slanting steeply downward. This is **Burrington Cavern,** which, when first discovered, exhibited about 50 human skeletons, resting among the weapons which they had used when living. The bones of horses and of sheep, and the jaw of a fox, found in the hardened mud, showed that this cavern had also been the resort of wild animals. On either side of the hollow are great ribs of mountain limestone, well displaying the inclination of the strata; and above, on the hill, is a quadrangular camp with a rampart of loose stones, apparently of Roman date, called *Burrington Ham.* In Burrington Combe a bone-cavern, known as *Whitcombe's Hole*, was examined in 1863, and found to contain the remains of the ox, red-deer, wolf, fox, goat, badger, etc., and fragments of a rude urn. *Plumbley's Den*, in the same combe, has 2 large chambers, united by a low passage, filled with bones, among which the most remarkable was the skull of the *Bos longifrons.*

4¼ m. **Blagdon,** between which and Burrington is *Rickford Combe*, a romantic dell, dressed with hanging woods, and traversed by a clear streamlet. Blagdon *Ch.* was rebuilt, all but the tower, in 1822. Meric Casaubon and Langhorne, the translator of Plutarch's "Lives," were incumbents here. A pig of lead, bearing the name of Britannicus, A.D. 44–48, the earliest example of Roman metallurgy discovered in Britain, was found near Blagdon, 1853. [There is a fine ride or drive from Blagdon to Cheddar. (See p. 324.)]

Combe Lodge is the seat of Sir W. H. Wills, M.P., and *Blagdon Court* of Captain N. T. Newnham.

6½ m. W., is **Ubley,** with a small *Ch.*, with W. tower and spire, and 7 m. **Compton Martin.** The *Ch.* is deserving of careful attention, being of very late Norm. date, "of very high rank in its own class."—*Freeman.* It has the unusual feature in a church of that date of a clerestory, and has a finely vaulted Norm. chancel, the ribs enriched with chevron moulding. On the N. side of the nave is a singular twisted pillar, and under a recess in the N. aisle is a recumbent figure on a slab of an earlier date. There is a good oak screen. Considerable alterations in the Perp. style were made in the 15th century, when the tower, an inferior version of the Somerset type, was erected. In this parish St. Wulfric was born, in the early part of the 12th century. He lived as hermit in a cell at Haselbury (see p. 416),

and was buried there by Robert, Bishop of Bath and Wells. ½ m. E. is *West Harptree* (Rte. 8).]

Returning to the rly., the line ascends by easy gradients to

5¾ m. *Winscombe* Stat. On the hill to the l. is *Sidcot*, where is a large Quakers' school, and on the slope of the swelling green hills, fringed with trees on the rt., **Winscombe Church**, with its fine grey pinnacled tower. The church was rebuilt by Bp. Ralph de Salopia (d. 1362), and must rank among the earliest triumphs of the new Perp. style. In a window in the church there are some figures of fine 15th-century white glass.

[1 m. E. the villages of *Shipham* and *Rowberrow*, on the slopes of Black Down, were inhabited chiefly by miners, or *grooviers*, as they were here termed, conspicuous for their yellow-brown clothes. The greater number of the lead and calamine mines are situated in these parishes, but they are not now worked. *Rowberrow* lies in a secluded hollow between the folds of the Mendips, commanding a fine view of the Channel, with a rivulet running through a deep winding dell. It is the centre of the Mendip mining district. The *Ch.*, perched on the brink of the deep dell, and the manor house (Major E. R. Leacroft) hard by, form a picturesque group. A curious piece of Saxon lacertine knotwork is built into the outside wall of the porch.]

The line here encounters *Shutshelve Hill*, which it pierces by a tunnel driven through hard shale and mountain limestone, on emerging from which it descends to

8 m. *Axbridge* Stat., on the hillside above the town, commanding a fine view of the broad, rich valley of the Axe, with varied hills in the distance.

* **Axbridge** (Pop. 732) is a very ancient little town, which possessed a corporation until 1886, under charters renewed by different kings from Edward the Confessor to James I. The town returned a member to Parliament at various periods up to 1334, when, on the representation of the inhabitants that they were no longer able to bear the expense, it was "excused" from further representation. The *Ch.* is a fine cruciform building, with good central tower and pierced parapet. On the W. side of the tower is a crowned figure, probably of Henry VII., under a canopy, and on the E. one of St. John the Baptist with the Agnus Dei. The nave has no clerestory, and the chancel, as is common in Somersetshire churches, is much inferior to the rest of the building. In 1879 it received a partial restoration and refitting, which it greatly needed, at the hands of Mr. Sedding. A curious wooden roof, adorned with large pendants, bears the date 1636. There are the remains of some wall-painting, and a 14th-century panel painting of the Risen Saviour was discovered some years ago, but has most wantonly been repainted so that its character is quite lost. There are several monuments to the Prowse family, an altar-cloth dated 1720, the work, for 7 years,

of Abigail Prowse, and a merchant's brass to Roger Harper and wife, 1493. In the town are some good examples of 14th and 15th century houses.

Early peas and potatoes are raised in large quantities in this sheltered vicinity for the Bristol and London markets. It is the central depôt of the agricultural produce of the Cheddar valley.

Immediately after leaving Axbridge l. is **St. Michael's House,** a hospital for incurables, erected by the widow of the late munificent Mr. Gibbs, of Tyntesfield, as a memorial to her husband.

Shutshelve Hill is continued W. in the ridge called **Wavering Down,** ending in the pyramidal eminence of **Crook's Peak,** commanding a very fine view. The ascent from the S. side is very easy along the edge of the combe. Below lies **Compton Bishop.** The *Ch.* (restored) has a stone pulpit, and E.E. double piscina, and some old glass in the E. window. In the churchyard is a cross of early 14th-century work. The sides of the hill are pierced with caverns.

Christon, in the valley to the N.W. of Crook's Peak, has a Norm. *Ch.* (restored), with a low tower between the nave and chancel, supported by chevroned arches, and a good Norm. S. doorway.

* 9½ m. **CHEDDAR** Station, famous for the neighbouring *Cheddar Cliffs* and *Caverns.* At a distance of 2 m. is the summit of *Black Down*, the highest hill on the Mendips.

The rich grass farms of this neighbourhood have been famous from an early period for the *Cheddar cheeses.* Camden bears witness to their excellence in his time, and speaks of their "prodigious size, requiring more than one man's strength to set them on the table." "The worst fault," says old Fuller, "of Cheddar cheese is that they are so few and so dear, hardly to be met with, save at some rich man's table." In 1841 a monster cheese was manufactured at West Pennard as a present to the Queen, every farmer in the neighbourhood contributing to it a day's milk. A show of a similar kind may be often seen in this neighbourhood, where, says Mr. Acland, "a full cheese-room, exhibited by a Marsh yeoman after his rent has been paid, and all made straight, is a pleasant sight, as it is one which the farmers have always great pleasure in showing to a visitor."

St. Dunstan has left his name in these parts, which abound in stories of him. One of the most remarkable is of his having saved King Edmund, when hunting in the Mendips, from being carried over Cheddar Cliff by his horse, which led to the King's reconciliation to the Archbishop.

The *Ch.* is a good example of the usual Somersetshire type, rather coarsely worked, with a stately tower and groined belfry, and a statue of its patron saint, St. Andrew, in a niche on the W. front. In the interior are a sculptured stone pulpit, rich screens and ceiling of oak, and a brass to the memory of Sir Thomas de Cheddar (c. 1442), and another of inferior style to his widow, Isabel (c. 1460). There

is some good old glass in one window. The De Cheddars were a wealthy family, who represented Somersetshire in Parliament for many years. Their manor house stood by the roadside at the entrance to Axbridge, and a part of it still remains in a farmhouse.

The hexagonal *market-cross* was restored in 1834 by the late Marquis of Bath.

The village extends to the entrance of the ravine, where the rocks hang grandly over the pass. Below them is a pretty sheet of water, once reflecting the rugged scene on its limpid surface, but now rendered turbid and poisonous by the lead-mines. On its bank is

***Cox's Cheddar Cavern,** accidentally discovered in 1837. The cave is narrow, and of small size, but quite a fairy world. In every part it is crowded with fantastic figures, the insensible growth of ages, still nourished by the dripping water, which whimsically resemble the various forms named by the guide. It is lighted with gas.

***Gough's Stalactite Cavern,** opposite the Lion Rock, contains some curious stalactites of a similar character to those in the other cavern. Very interesting discoveries of flint implements have been made in one of these caverns, discovered in 1893. These are now in the very instructive museum attached to these caves. Over the first-known cave a second has been discovered, in which Roman coins and pottery and late Celtic relics have been found. It appears as if this, like the Victoria Cave at Settle, may have been a refuge of Britons during the Saxon invasion.

Other caverns of larger size are shown, but they are mere gloomy vaults in the hill-side. One may be explored for about 300 ft. Another, situated 1½ m. from the entrance of the cliffs, l. of the road, and some 200 ft. above it, has excited much interest by the discovery in the mud breccia of its floor of human skulls and bones, together with those of wild animals. No proof, according to Sir Charles Lyell, "that they were coeval, but only that they were of high antiquity, though not referable to a geological era." The mouth of the cavern is a vertical fissure.

A carriage-road, made in 1801, leads through the pass of the ***Cheddar Cliffs**. The chasm is about a mile in length, and presents numerous fine studies of rocks and caverns. [As the scenery becomes less wild as you ascend, it is advisable to reverse the usual mode of seeing the cliffs by scaling the hill on the E. side, and entering the ravine at its upper part, descending upon the grander and more romantic portions of the defile. The best method of approach for cyclists or for a drive is to ascend the N. side of the Mendips from Blagdon, cross by Charterhouse-on-Mendip, seeing the amphitheatre (see p. 329) on the way, and come down the gorge from its very commencement. This is a truly magnificent excursion.] The entrance is more grand than might be expected from the character of the hills, the mountain limestone rising abruptly in towering precipices, whilst from a

cavern at their foot the Cheddar water rushes in a torrent. Within the portal of the pass its stony jaws appear to close upon the little road, which, margined by turf, winds from side to side, and opens at every turn a fresh picture of huge and wildly grouped rocks. The finest portion of the scenery is included in the first ½ m., in which a cliff rises vertically on the rt., and directly from the path of the spectator, to an elevation of 429 ft. This grand and beautiful wall is decked by festoons of ivy, and scored on the surface by a network of fissures, from which spring the mountain ash, the yew-tree, and various shrubs and plants. As the road proceeds, its barriers gradually open out, and the dark blue precipices are succeeded by slopes of turf. This is a habitat of *Polypodium Robertianum*, and of the pretty *Dianthus Cæsius*, or *Cheddar pink*, now almost exterminated by excursionists, together with the other beautiful ferns and plants which once gave an additional beauty and interest to the ravine.

The **MENDIP HILLS** extend in a N.W. and S.E. direction about 12 m., the width of the chain varying from 3 to 6 m. On the S.E. its beds of mountain limestone dip below the oolite, in which position they are seen in the many romantic dales between Shepton and Frome. The nucleus of the range consists of old red sandstone, the flanks of mountain limestone. Hence the resemblance of this district to the highlands of Derbyshire, a similar rock presenting similar phenomena in both counties, such as veins of lead, caverns, and subterranean streams. The limestone formation of the rocks gives the top of Mendip a peculiar character. The ground is very much broken, often by deep holes called swallets. Into these swallets fall streams of water, disappearing into the bowels of the earth. It has been in many cases shown that the swallets communicate through a series of fissures in the limestone with streams that flow out at the foot of the hills. In one case a swallet was used to get rid of the washings of some lead-works, until it was discovered, and proved in a court of law, that a stream some 8 or 9 m. distant was being polluted. These swallets are sometimes 20 or 30 ft. deep, and with sides so steep that it is not safe to leave them unfenced from cattle. One, called the Devil's Punch Bowl, like big holes of the kind in other parts of England, is especially remarkable for size and depth. The Bowl is sunk in a field broken in other parts by only ordinary undulations, and, as you approach, first appears as a mere slit, the lips being smooth and covered with ordinary grass; then this slit widens and deepens to the view, till the bottom of the crater becomes visible as you reach and stand upon the edge. The sheep that climb down its steep sides to eat the rank growth of grass, meadow-sweet, and hemlock that covers its floor, look half their natural size, so great is the depth. In early times the moors of Mendip were attached to the Crown as a royal forest, in which Saxon and Norman kings diverted themselves

by hunting, and here, as mentioned above, King Edmund had a narrow escape of his life. The summit, along which ran a Roman road from Old Sarum to the Bristol Channel, has a comparatively level surface, attaining its greatest elevation in Black Down, but here and there the traveller will find an unexpected chasm, and the declivities are on all sides abrupt, and scored by rocky hollows. The heights of Mendip are covered with barrows, among which are many of the bowl shape. **Mines of lead and calamine** (carbonate of zinc) have been worked on the Mendip Hills from the time of the Belgæ, principally in the parishes of Rowberrow, Shipham, and East Harptree. The visitor to Cheddar is within reach of one of them, now no longer worked, called the *Mendip Lead Mine*, a walk of about 2 m. The summit of **Black Down** rises at a short distance to the N. It is a heathy eminence, crowned by an ordnance mark, and commands a most extensive and beautiful view. It is elevated 1068 ft. above the sea, and is said to be the part of Somersetshire seen from Windsor Castle. The obscure village of **Priddy** lies high and bleak in a small hollow of the downs. Round Priddy Pool lie immense heaps of slag, the refuse of the ancient mineral works of the former inhabitants of the district, which was unsuccessfully attempted to be reworked by a company a few years back. In digging up these heaps many traces of the Roman occupation have been found. They are of the most varied kinds, and from them may be read a curious history of the social life in the little hill station. The relics of the mining instruments are very numerous—fragments of spades and other iron tools, scales and weights. Two pigs of lead, not inferior in neatness or purity to those produced at this day, have been found. The pig preserved at the mine is inscribed at the top IMP. VESPASIANUS. AUG., while the words stamped on the sides tell that the lead has been smelted from the silver-bearing vein of Britain. It is curious to notice how well the shape is adapted for carrying on the backs of mules, by which means the lead was conveyed to the port under Brean Down. A pair of dice, made in rough lead, seems to point to the fact that the Roman miner had the same gambling propensities as the modern Californian. Hundreds of brooches, from the richly enamelled brooch of some prosperous overseer to the simple clasp or safety-pin—for that is the form of them all—have been found All except one have the pins broken off, thrown away, no doubt, as useless when that was gone, as we throw away a button; but yet to careful people they ought to have seemed worth mending, for they are often solidly and finely finished. Among many other things have been found spoons, lead and ivory; a dinner-knife, with a bone handle; several styli, with which the mine accounts may have been kept; rough glass beads, perhaps the ornaments of some poor Celtic slave, if savages loved glass beads at that time. But on the side of the hill above the mine is the most striking of all the remains,

and the most characteristic—an amphitheatre, small but regular in shape, and still clearly traceable. The slope of the hill gave the opportunity to cut tiers of grass seats. The *Ch.* is of some size and dignity of character. 2 m. N.E. the Roman road, running from Uphill to Old Sarum, may be traced with great distinctness to the little solitary public-house on Harptree Hill, known as the *Castle of Comfort*, near which is the curious depression about 80 ft. deep, called the *Devil's Punch Bowl*, described above, and on the summit of the hills, towards Priddy, 4 large British circles and 2 groups of barrows, one of 8, the other of 9 mounds, called respectively *Ashen Hill Barrows* and *Priddy Nine Barrows.*

At **Charterhouse-on-Mendip** (p. 329), not far from the former lead-works, is a Roman station with the amphitheatre mentioned above, to find which on the way from Cheddar take the first turn on the l. up a lane after passing through the cross-roads at Charterhouse. The amphitheatre is in a field on the l. near the top of the lane.]

The rly. from Cheddar to Wells proceeds along the foot of the Mendips, commanding a wide prospect over the level country to the rt. The numerous outlying knolls are pretty features in the scenery. The line gradually ascends to

12 m. **Draycott** Stat., a little to the S. of which is

Rodney Stoke, a very pretty spot, the hills rising from it with great boldness and beauty, particularly a peak called *Stoke Knoll.* The *Ch.*, standing on a high bank above the line l., deserves a visit. It contains a screen given by Sir E. Rodney, 1624, and many monuments of the Rodney family, one of the oldest of the Somersetshire families, though now extinct in the direct line.

14 m. **Lodge Hill** Stat. for **Westbury.** At the intersection of the roads is an ancient *cross*, raised aloft on a pile of steps. The *Ch.* has a Norm. tower. The S. aisle is of the time of Edward IV. The Rodney Chapel contains a monument to George Rodney, 1586. From Westbury the line ascends to *Easton*, where there is a long cutting through conglomerate, and thence to

16½ m. **Wookey** Stat. Here is the cavern known as ***Wookey Hole**, the legendary haunt of the "Witch of Wookey," where

> "Deep in the dreamy dismal cell,
> Which seemed and was yclepèd hell,
> This blear-eyed hag did hide,"

whose exploits form the subject of a ballad in Percy's "Reliques." A road over *Milton Hill* (with a fine view), or by the foot of the hill, will lead to a pretty dell deeply scooped in the limestone. Along this runs the stream of the *Axe* to turn the wheels of several paper-mills. By a path through a wood we soon reach its source, at the foot of a lofty precipice which closes in the valley with its picturesque curve. Here the river issues from a natural arch, and above it, some 50 ft., appears the entrance to the cavern. "Its

entrance," says William of Worcester, "is narrow, and the ymage of a man stands beside it, called the porter, of whom leave to enter the hall of Woky is to be obtained." The passage leads at once by a sharp ascent and as abrupt a descent, called *Hell's Ladder*, to the sanctum of the witch, her *kitchen*, where the walls expand so considerably. A sphinx-like-shaped mass of stalactite is popularly known as the "*Witch of Wookey*."

In the same chamber are the *dog*, the *witch brewing*, the *pillar of salt*, and the *boiling furnace*, whimsical masses formed by the dropping of the water charged with carbonate of lime. From the kitchen the guide will conduct you to the *parlour*, and point out the *witch's hand-basin*, the *organ*, and the *flitch of bacon;* and from the parlour to the *drawing-room*, where the river prevents any further progress. The rock in which this extensive cavity is formed is the magnesian limestone, which is found in several places on the flanks of the Mendips. Large discoveries of animal remains have been made at Wookey, including an enormous quantity of bones of hyæna, 3 species of bear, 2 lions, 1 wolf, and of the creatures on which they fed. As much as 2 cwt. of rhinoceros-teeth was sold as old bones. There have been also found traces of human occupation: flint implements, splinters, and a bone arrow-head. According to Leland and Camden, in the reign of Henry VIII. a pig of lead, bearing an inscription recording the British triumphs of Claudius, was turned up by the plough near Wookey Hole. *Wookey*, more properly *Okey*, is said to be derived from the British word *ogo* (Cornish *fogo*), a cavern. A plan was once proposed to drive an adit for the drainage of the mines from Wookey Hole to East Harptree, a distance of 6 m. (Rte. 8), passing entirely through the chain of the Mendips. In the belief of the country people a passage already exists to the Cheddar cliffs.

Wookey **Church** is Perp., with a good tower with a corner turret and spirelet, and a good altar-tomb to Thomas Clarke and his wife Anthony, 1555, by whom the chapel containing it was built and fitted up for worship, temp. Philip and Mary. A squint at the S.E. corner of the N. aisle, with a piscina on its sill, should be noticed. Alexander Barclay, author of "The Ship of Fools," was incumbent of Wookey. The sculptured base of a cross remains in the churchyard.

The **Court**, now a farmhouse, was formerly a manorial residence of the bishops of Bath and Wells, from which many of Beckington's letters are dated. It still contains an E.E. doorway and some Perp. remains. **Mellifont Abbey** (Miss Burnett Stuart), built on the site of the old rectory by Colonel Piers (c. 1730), is a modern antique, preserving some ancient architectural fragments.

The **Ebbor Rocks** are on the hill above Wookey Hole. You will pursue the Cheddar road, and turn in at the first gate on the rt., where a path leads up a wooded bottom to a ravine with rocky sides and slopes, covered with débris. The cliffs rise picturesquely above it.

On the other side of the Axe, which divides the parishes of Wells and Wookey, and was the frontier of Wessex, A.D. 577, is the hill of **Ben Knoll**, where there are traces of a small fortified settlement with hut-circles, from which charcoal has been dug. The view from the summit is extensive.]

17¾ m. **Wells** (Rte. 1).

ROUTE 4.

FROME TO YEOVIL, BY BRUTON AND CASTLE CARY.

(*Weymouth Branch of G.W. Rly.*)

RAIL.	PLACES.
	Paddington.
115¼ m.	Frome.
120½ m.	Witham.
126 m.	Bruton.
129¼ m.	Castle Cary.
134 m.	Sparkford.
136¾ m.	Marston.
141 m.	Pen Mill (Yeovil).

115¼ m. from Paddington

***FROME** (Pop. 9613). Frome (more correctly, Froome Selwood) is a large and populous market town and parliamentary borough, with several flourishing manufactories, employing a very large number of hands. The staple manufacture is that of woollen cloth, which is carried on most extensively, and there are some card-mills, fulling-mills, and dye-works. In the vicinity there are large manufactories of edge-tools, and extensive iron foundries. Frome is a town of considerable antiquity. It owes its origin to a monastery built before 705 by St. Aldhelm. The inmates were probably dispersed by the wars with the Danes, but the church continued till the time of William of Malmesbury. The Saxon king Edred died at Frome in 955, and was buried at Winchester. The church was afterwards appropriated to the abbey of Cirencester. In former days it was surrounded by *Selwood Forest* (which in the last century afforded shelter to a body of marauders and coiners, who were a terror to the neighbouring parishes), of which the woods adjoining Longleat are a remnant. The country in the neighbourhood is still rich in trees, and extremely pretty. It is principally laid out in dairy farms, which produce excellent butter.

The town is built on a steep declivity, and the streets are laid out to suit the conformation of the ground, with very little attention to regularity. The main thoroughfares branch into paved lanes, which again divide and contract as they mount the hill, like the tributaries of a stream. The town is built of stone, and its general aspect is picturesque. It contains many Jacobean houses. In the centre of the market-place stands a *market cross* and fountain, erected by the Hon. and Rev. Richard Boyle. The tourist will find much to interest him here in the fine *Parish Church*, the various *manufactories*, and the pretty ravine of *Vallis*. It is also a good centre for excursions. *Longleat* is 4 m. S.E., *Nunney Castle* 2½ m. S.W., and the neighbourhood abounds with pretty villages and old churches.

The **Parish Church** of St. John Baptist was restored and in part rebuilt, at large cost, by the late vicar, the Rev. W. J. E. Bennett. Originally there was a nave of 3 bays, besides the bay formed by the tower, all of the late 14th or early 15th century. At a later period 4 more bays were added to the W. in a peculiar local type. Remains of a still earlier church appear in the chancel, where little bits of Norman work are scattered about. The tower, crowned by a spire, stands at the E. end of the S. aisle. The Lady Chapel, on the N. side, forms a quasi-transept, and there are three chantry chapels, dedicated to St. Andrew, St. John Evangelist, and St. Nicholas. In one the organ is now placed, and the Chapel of St. Nicholas is now the baptistery. The nave is of 8 bays, of 2 dates, the piers standing on large blocks as high as the seats.

In approaching from the N., the visitor will be struck with the *Calvary Steps*, or *Stations of the Cross*, a series of carvings, consisting of scenes from our Lord's Passion, which occupy the steep ascent from the entrance of the churchyard to the N. porch. Passing on his way to the E., without entering the church, let him turn l. towards the E. wall of the chancel (noticing, as he passes, a beautiful figure of St. Catherine on the N. wall of the church), and stay a little while at the tomb of Bp. Ken (see *post*). Passing on round the church, let him notice also the sculpture over the S. door, representing SS. Peter and John going up to the Temple at the hour of prayer, and the W. front, with the fine figures of the 4 Evangelists. On entering, he will notice on each side of the W door life-size statues of St. Alban St. Aldhelm, St. Andrew, and St. George (too large for their place); if he then turn to the l. up the N. aisle, he will come to the baptistery, the Chapel of St. Nicholas, Late Perp. The windows represent the commission to the apostles, and incidents in the life of St. Nicholas. The font is a portion of the old font restored. On the pavement are the 7 chief virtues and the 7 deadly sins. Immediately adjoining is the very beautiful Lady Chapel, Dec., rebuilt 1337, with windows representing scenes in the life of the Virgin Mary. In the arcades of the nave are medallions, the work of Forsyth. N. they represent the miracles of our Lord, S. the Parables, and over the chancel arch is a fresco by Clayton and Bell, representing the adoration of the Lamb.

The pulpit, with its sculptures of 8 famous preachers—Noah, Moses, Elijah, St. John the Baptist, St. Peter, St. Paul, St. Chrysostom, and St. Ambrose—deserves notice, together with the rich and beautiful chancel, the Ken memorial window, the ringing-floor under the tower on the S., the roof of the nave, and the many windows in the aisle, chiefly memorials. Monumental tablets of another class remain here and there in the church, among them one to the daughters of a former Lord Cork, two graceful figures by Westmacott. The chancel floor should be noticed for its variety of marbles. The reredos is of Carrara marble, by

Forsyth. The rood-screen bears figures carved in Bavaria. There is a peal of 8 musical bells, and a clock which chimes at the 4 canonical hours.

On the outside, under the E. wall of the chancel, is the singular and interesting monument of the brave and holy Bp. Ken,

> "That dared with royal power to cope,
> In peaceful faith persisting:
> A braver Becket—who could hope
> To conquer unresisting."

Ken, who was one of the 7 bishops committed to the Tower by James II., 1688, for refusing to read the Declaration of Indulgence, was deprived in 1689 for refusing to take the oath of allegiance to William III., and passed his time in retirement at Longleat, under the protection of Lord Weymouth, in 1703. Ken died at Longleat in 1711, in his 74th year, and, according to his desire, was buried "in the churchyard of the nearest parish within his diocese, under the E. window of the chancel, just at sunrising." It is presumed that Lord Weymouth gave directions for the somewhat singular monument beneath which he is interred, which is a grating of iron bars bent into the form of a coffin, across which are laid a mitre and pastoral staff,

> "A basket-work where bars are bent—
> Iron in place of osier;
> And shapes above that represent
> A mitre and a crosier."
> *R. Monckton Milnes*
> (Lord Houghton).

The whole is now protected by a small open-worked stone shrine.

Joseph Glanvil, "the first English writer who had thrown scepticism into a definite form," the author of "The Vanity of Dogmatizing," as well as of the once famous "Sadducismus Triumphatus," or assertion of the reality of witchcraft, was vicar of Frome, afterwards of Bath.

John Foster, the Baptist minister, author of "Essays on Decision of Character," etc., had the charge of the congregation in Sheppard's Barton 1804–8. He did not love the place, which he calls "a large and surpassingly ugly town. . . . I should nauseate the place if I had been habituated to it for a century."

The *cloth-mills* are scattered about the neighbourhood of the town.

Excursions.

(a) To Vallis and district.

The walk to Vallis Bottom is a delightful one. **Vallis** is 1 m. W. of Spring Gardens, and the same distance N.W. of Frome, l. of the road to Radstock. It is a romantic little glen, with richly wooded sides, where the geologist will notice the oolite beds on the flat top of the mountain limestone, with beds of much earlier conglomerate between the two. Here quiet reigns undisturbed, for even the streamlets cease their prattle, and creep in silence, forming pictures in glassy pools. Among other rare plants the botanist will find the *Dipsacus pilosus*. The rock is in some places quarried, and exhibits its strata of various colours, dipping at a high angle. *Vallis* was the seat of the Leversedges, the ancient lords of the manor, and has been converted into tenements. The hall (temp. Henry VII.) still

remains, though much mutilated. A very charming walk may be taken up the course of this little stream. It divides at *Elm*, one branch descending N.W. from *Mells*, another S.W. from the woods of *Asham* and *Nunney*. Either route will afford much pleasure to the lover of the picturesque. At **Elm** the rocks of the ravine, overhung with ivy and brushwood, rise to a height of 150 ft. The *Ch.* has a tower with a saddle-back roof, and will repay inspection. To the S.W. of the village is an earthwork known as Tedbury Camp. **Mells**, 3½ m. W. from Frome Stat., belonged to Glastonbury, and at the dissolution was purchased by John Horner, to whose family the estate still belongs; a cottage of the 15th century may still be seen near the church. **Mells Park** (J. F. F. Horner, Esq.) is delightfully situated in a finely wooded demesne. Charles I. occupied Mells House July 17th, 1643. its owner, Sir John Horner, being Parliamentary high sheriff of the county, and his estate under sequestration. On the 19th he left for Bruton. Of the Horners of Mells was that favourite of the nursery, *Little Jack Horner*, who

> "Sat in a corner,
> Eating a Christmas pie."

The plum which the "good boy" found is said to have been £10.000. Amongst other objects in the house is the magnificent piano-case designed and executed by Sir E. Burne-Jones. The *Ch.*, Perp., beautiful both in form and detail, according to Leland, was built "yn tyme of mynde by the hole paroche. One Garlande, a draper of London, gave freely to the buylding of the vestiarie a fine and curious peece of work. A gentleman of the paroche made a fair chapel to the N. of the church." It has a noble Perp. tower and sanctus bell-cot, and contains a plain Norm. font. There are several modern canopied brasses, and in 1886 a memorial tablet was put up in memory of Laura, wife of the Hon. Alfred Lyttelton. This was designed and executed in gesso by Sir Edward Burne-Jones, and hangs on the N. wall of the tower by the W. window. The design is that of a peacock, a very ancient symbol of the Resurrection, standing on an open tomb surrounded by laurel. The lettering is very striking. Near the church is the stately Late Perp. *Manor House*, used as the rectory. The ravine here is known as **Wadbury Vale.** On either side are remains of earthworks, *Wadbury Camp* N. and *Tedbury* S. On the N. flank of Newbury Hill, overlooking another affluent of the stream, is *Newbury*, another entrenchment. The stream has its source in *Emborrow Pond*, or *Lechmere Water*, on the N.E. slope of Mendip.

2 m. S.W., 600 ft. above the sea, is the bleakly placed village of **Leigh-upon-Mendip**, where the small *Ch.* has a very elaborate Perp. tower, crowned with 20 pinnacles, and contains a large Norm. font, and an ancient Purbeck marble altar-stone.

From *Vallis* an equally pretty walk may be taken up another branch of the stream, which has its rise at East Cranmore, by **Whatley**, 2 m., where there is a good *Ch.*, with tower and lofty

spire, Norm. doors to S. porch, and N. and S. chapels; in the S. chapel is an altar-tomb to Sir Oliver de Servington, with recumbent effigy. At *Whatley House* (J. H. Shore, Esq.) a Roman villa, with a very perfect pavement, of a design more than usually good, and remains of the bath, have been discovered. The house, an old mansion, was restored in 1881, and in the grounds is a stone cross, part of which was brought from Nunney. The walk can be continued to the last-named place, where there is another very pretty dell, running up in the direction of Bruton.

(b) To Nunney.

Nunney Castle is a very picturesque ruin, in a romantic position. It was begun, temp. Edward III., A.D. 1373, by Sir John Delamere, and finished by his nephews in the following reign. The walls are nearly perfect, and present an excellent example of a fortified house of the period of transition from Dec. to Perp., surrounded by a moat. The plan is oblong, 61 ft. by 25 ft., with a cylindrical tower of very bold projection at each corner. The central part of the house was divided into 4 stories by wooden floors. The chief staircase was in the N. tower. The hall was on the first floor. The tower at the S. corner contains on the third story a very perfect example of a domestic chapel. The stone slab of the altar is seen projecting below the 2-light Perp. window looking due E., with a canopied piscina on the S. side. In the Great Rebellion, this castle was garrisoned for the King, but was taken in Fairfax's campaign, Sept. 8th, 1645, about the same time as Basing House, which belonged to the same owner, Pawlet, Marquis of Winchester. The marks of the siege are still to be seen on the walls. Nunney *Ch.* is cruciform, extensively altered, temp. Henry VII., with an E.E. chancel, containing a Norm. font and some good effigies of the Delameres and Praters, which deserve notice. The beautiful ancient cross of the 13th century, removed a few years since by the parochial authorities, has been re-erected in the grounds of Whatley House. The hall of a manor-house near the church, used as a lumber room (called the *Nunnery*), preserves a fine roof, music gallery, and screen. Nunney is 3 m. from the *Witham* stat.

(c) To Marston.

Marston Biggott, 3 m. S.W. The *Ch.* is modern. **Marston House,** built by Edmund, Earl of Cork and Orrery (d. 1798), has been almost entirely rebuilt by the present Earl. It is a stately Italian structure, containing many good paintings, including portraits of the Boyles: Richard, first Earl of Cork, Lord High Treasurer of Ireland, and Robert Boyle, the natural philosopher; and the first orrery ever constructed, about 30 inches in diameter, named from its inventor, Charles, fourth Earl of Orrery, 1676–1731; an interesting collection of original letters of Pope, Swift, Bolingbroke, the Duke of Marlborough, etc.; Charles I.'s Prayer-book with MS. notes; Robert Boyle's air-pump; and many other curiosities.

(d) To Lullington.

Lullington, a pretty secluded village, 2½ m. N., deserves notice for its small church, chiefly of good Trans. work, consisting of chancel and nave without aisles, divided by a central tower; a large S. transept and porch, restored 1862. The tower is Perp., of the Somersetshire type above, supported on Trans.-Norm. arches, with very curious capitals. The most curious feature is the N. doorway, richly decorated with twisted columns and with bird's beak and other mouldings. Within the crown of the arch is a rude sculpture of 2 animals fighting for a cross, and above it a figure of our Lord raising His hand in benediction. There is a singular tub-shaped Norm. font, with an almost illegible inscription: "Hoc fontis sacro pereunt delicta lavacro." The chancel is Dec. (c. 1320). In the vestry is a curious stone slab (c. 1085) with a cross and a hand emerging from clouds and resting upon it.

(e) To Beckington.

The church of **Beckington,** 2½ m. N.E., retains its Norm. tower, the rest having been rebuilt in Perp. times. It contains a monument to the poet *Daniel* (d. 1619), who is said to have succeeded Spenser as poet-laureate, placed there by the Countess of Dorset, and some good brasses. There are fine effigies of John St. Maur, or Seymour, in plate-armour, and his lady, 1485, and of another female; also a brass to John Compton, merchant. The village is rich in old houses. *Beckington Castle* (Colonel A. W. Hill) is a square, many-gabled house, with mullioned windows. In the parish is said to have been born *Bp. Beckington*, whose name is so closely connected with the architecture of Wells. ¾ m. N. is a house called Seymour's Court Farm, once the home of Thomas, Lord Seymour of Sudeley, who married Queen Catherine Parr, and was executed, March, 1548–9. ½m. further is the village of *Road*, where is Road Hill House, the scene of the Constance Kent tragedy in 1861.

[The principal seats in the neighbourhood of Frome are *Longleat* (Marquis of Bath); *Witham Park*, an estate belonging to *Bradley Park* (Duke of Somerset); *Marston House* (Earl of Cork and Orrery); *Mells Park* (J. F. F. Horner, Esq.); *Babington House* (Captain Wyndham Knatchbull); *Hardington Park*, of which the house is in ruins; *Standerwick Court* (R. R. Tanner, Esq., J.P.), and *Berkley House* (W. Henderson, Esq., J.P.), belonging to Sir Charles Mordaunt; *Ammerdown*, 7 m. N.W., in Kilmersdon parish (Lord Hylton), is a modern mansion, designed by J. Wyatt, in a park 4 m. in circumference (see Rte. 7); *Orchardleigh*, 2 m. N. (Rev. W. Duckworth), whose father built a new house, and laid out the grounds. The old mansion, formerly the seat of the Champneys, remains in the hollow. The small *Ch.*, which has a font and some windows of interest, stands in the park. On *Murtrey Hill*, in the park of Orchardleigh, is a *cromlech*, or sepulchral chamber; the two uprights being of inferior oolite, and the capstone a slab of millstone grit. Orchardleigh Pond is a fine sheet of water.

Farleigh Castle. 6 m. N., and Norton St. Philip's, 5 m. N., and Charterhouse Hinton, may all be visited from Frome.]

Proceeding on our route, the rly. leaves the woods of *Longleat* to the l., and runs parallel with the escarpment of the great Wiltshire chalk range, crowned near Bruton by *Alfred's Tower*, on the estate of *Stourhead*. The section from Frome to Yeovil was first opened September, 1856.

120½ m. *Witham* Stat., the junction of the East Somerset line, which runs rt. to Shepton Mallet and Wells, and Yatton, on the Bristol and Exeter main line of the G.W. Rly.

Witham was the site of the first Carthusian establishment in England, founded about 1175 or 1180-1 by Henry II. The third prior, and virtual founder, was the celebrated St. Hugh of Avalon, afterwards Bishop of Lincoln, who erected the buildings and presided over the house for eleven years, till reluctantly removed to Lincoln. His Life, edited by the Rev. J. F. Dimock, was written by one of his chaplains, a monk of Witham. At the dissolution the property was bestowed on the Hopton family, who lived here. Lord Hopton, the distinguished Cavalier general, was of this family, and resided at Witham, which was more than once fortified and garrisoned for the King. In 1644 Lord Hopton placed as many as 500 horse about it. July 18th in that year Prince Charles dined with Lord Hopton at Witham. It was besieged in September, 1644, and the garrison surrendered on terms.

The *Ch.*, which was probably the "Minor Ecclesia" of the priory, had been much disfigured by so-called improvements, but was restored by Mr. W. White, who removed the ugly tower erected in 1828, and lengthened the church by a bay. A new bell-gable, lofty and massive, carries the three old bells. It is vaulted with stone, the ribs springing from corbels, and has an apsidal E. end, in advanced Trans.-Norm.—"just the small plain church we should expect at a Carthusian monastery, where the inmates were few, and grandeur and ornament was sternly forbidden."—*J. F. Dimock.* There is a square trefoil-headed double piscina to the S. of the apse, and a rood-loft staircase to the N. The only traces of the monastic buildings remaining are the fishponds.

A cell belonging to the friary, with lands adjoining, stood on the top of the Mendips, between Cheddar and Blagdon. It is still called *Charterhouse-on-Mendip* (see p. 329), and is considered as belonging to the parish of Witham, though many miles distant. The line runs through rich woods to

126 m. **Bruton** Stat. (Pop. 1788). *Cole* Stat., on the Somerset and Dorset line, is 1 m. W. (Rte. 1). This little town is prettily placed in a valley among a cluster of hills, about 4 m. from the wooded heights of Stourhead and Alfred's Tower. It derives its name from the Brue, which, rising in the neighbourhood, flows through it in a shallow stream.

It is a place of some antiquity, and was formerly the seat of a brotherhood of Black Canons, whose priory was built by William de Mohun, of Dunster, 1142, on the ruins of a Benedictine monastery, said to have been founded here in very early times by Ethelmar, an Earl of Cornwall. The abbey was granted by Henry VIII. to Sir Maurice Berkeley, his standard-bearer, in 1546, and he made it his residence. In Leland's time, Bruton was "much occupied with the making of cloth." Charles I. was here in 1641, and heard a sermon from Bp. Lake, and visited it again with Prince Charles in July, 1644, when the King spent two nights at Bruton, and was quartered at the Abbey House, "a faire and noble habitation of his loyal servant Sir C. Berkeley." The attempt to induce the rustics of the place to join the royal standard was a complete failure. General Goring made Bruton his headquarters in 1645, but evacuated it on Cromwell's approach.

In Bruton register is the following poetic effusion of thankfulness for deliverance from a local raid in 1642:—

"All praise and thanks to God still give
For our deliverance Matthias eve;
By His great power we put to flight
Our foes, the raging Batcombites,
Who came to plunder, burn, and slay,
And quite consume our town this day."

A pig of lead, bearing a triumphal inscription of Antoninus and Verus, was found at Bruton early in the last century.

The Great Hall of the Abbey House was burnt 1763, and the remainder pulled down 1786. The family of the Lords Berkeley of Stratton (from whom Bruton Street, Stratton Street, and Berkeley Square, London, take their names) having died out, the property was purchased by Sir H. Hoare in 1776.

The prior's house exhibits the arms and badge of the Mohuns and John Hinton, prior in 1448.

The *Ch.* has considerable merit. It has been restored by the late Mr. Slater and Mr. R. H. Carpenter, and deserves careful attention. The ceilings are remarkably fine. The tower at the W. end is a noble example of a plainish Somersetshire type, with triple belfry windows filled with pierced stonework, and a quatrefoiled battlement, and groined within. The church is singular from having a second tower surmounting the N. porch. The chancel is debased. Beneath it is a vaulted crypt with octagonal pillars, containing coffins of the Berkeleys. The walls of the nave are surmounted by an open-worked parapet. The clerestory windows have rich niches between them within, filled with new statues at the recent restoration, and the roofs are handsomely panelled in oak. There are some monuments, particularly one to Sir Maurice Berkeley and his 2 wives, and another to Chief Justice Fitz-James. An ancient tomb in the churchyard is attributed to William Gilbert, Abbot of Bruton, whose arms, with the initials "W. G.," may be seen over the N. door.

The *vicarage*, adjoining the church, was formed 1822 by Sir Richard Colt Hoare out of the ruins of the abbey. On a grassy hill above it, once the park of that abbey, stands a roofless pigeon-house tower, commanding an excellent view of Bruton and its neighbourhood. *Creech Hill*, crowned by a small camp, is seen to the N.W.

The *Free Grammar School*, founded by Richard FitzJames, Bishop of London, 1520, and his nephew, Sir J. FitzJames, Lord Chief Justice, suppressed by Henry VIII., and refounded by Edward VI., derives its revenue from the abbey lands. It possesses an excellent library of modern literature and a chemical laboratory.

The *Hospital*, founded by Hugh Sexey in 1638 (who rose from a stable-boy to be auditor to Queen Elizabeth) for 7 old men and 24 old women (since enlarged), is a quaint building, forming a small quadrangle, including hall and chapel, and presenting a good example of the Late Gothic of Somersetshire. (Compare *post*, *Wyke Champflower*, *Low Ham*.) The funds also support the Sexey Trade School, founded 1889. Between the hospital and the church is an ancient and very picturesque one-arched bridge.

The road to *Wincanton*, 4 m., is a pretty drive, passing on rt. *Redlynch Park*, a seat of the Earl of Ilchester; and rt., 1 m. from Bruton, *Discove*, a romantic hamlet, where a Roman pavement was found in 1711. This road runs out of Bruton through a stone archway, embowered in elms, whose branches embrace across the road.

Redlynch was the seat of the ancient family of Draycot. Eleanor Draycot, the heiress, married, early in the 15th century, James FitzJames, and brought the Redlynch estate to that family. Three sons were the issue of this marriage, of whom Richard, Bishop of London (1506–22) and Lord Almoner to Henry VII., was the youngest. The eldest son, Sir John FitzJames, was the father of Sir John FitzJames, Lord Chief Justice of the King's Bench (d. 1642), the chief founder of Bruton Grammar School. In 1670 Sir Stephen Fox possessed the property (b. at Farley, near Salisbury, 1627; d. 1716), a faithful servant of Charles I. and II. He lived in the reigns of 6 sovereigns, and his character was that of "the greatest favourite of the prince, the chiefest minister of state, and the wealthiest subject of the realm." He was the projector of the great military hospital at Chelsea, and contributed largely to that undertaking. The present mansion was built by him, 1672. George III. was a frequent visitor here.

Places near Bruton.

(a) At **Stourhead**, the seat of Sir Henry Hoare, Bart., the *gardens* may be seen, but the former collection of pictures has been sold, and the antiquities removed to the Devizes Museum. **Alfred's Tower**, commanding a view over an immense extent of country, is accessible at all times, the key being kept at the adjoining lodge. It is 4½ m. from Bruton to Alfred's Tower, 7½ m. to the house, but ½ m. may be saved by crossing the meadows called *Bruton Park*. S. of Alfred's Tower is the earthwork of *Jack's Castle*, on the summit of a hill, and at the foot of this height the remains, in a farmhouse and its buildings, of the Augustinian priory of *Stavordale*, founded by one of the Lovells in the reign of Henry III. (Rte. 1, p. 6).

(b) **Batcombe**, 3 m. N., has a good Perp. *Ch.* The tower is very fine, and is a good example of the earlier and more severe Somersetshire tower, with the same truncated appearance as the W. towers of Wells. On its W. face is a niche containing a figure of our Lord with censing angels. The S. porch was built in 1629, by James Bisse, a member of the family to whom the manor passed at the dissolution from Glastonbury Abbey. It is a curious specimen of the struggle of the Gothic and Classical styles. The Jacobean altar-rails are curious. There are several quaint and interesting monuments to the Bisse family, including a brass to Philip Bisse, D.D., who died 1613. A small external crucifix at the E. end of the nave deserves notice. Richard Bernard, a Puritan divine, a munificent benefactor to Wadham College Library, and author of a quaint allegorized work entitled "The Isle of Man, or Legal Proceedings in Man's Hert against Sin," died rector here in 1641.

(c) 1 m. W. of Bruton, **Wyke Champflower** has a chapel built by H. Southworth, 1624, worth notice as an example of Jacobean Gothic. The manor house stands hard by, and both are overshadowed with fine elms. Here the rly. to Yeovil goes under the Somerset and Dorset line between Wimborne and Highbridge (Rte. 1).

On the road to Castle Cary the bold eminence of *Creech Hill* will be observed on the rt.

129¼ m. **Castle Cary** Stat., ¾ m. N. of the town (Pop. 2096). This is another small town deriving interest from the beauty of the surrounding country, but in itself possessing little to delay the traveller. It is situated on the escarpment of the inferior oolite, partly in the valley, partly on the slope, its principal street running up a hollow between 2 hills. There are factories here for weaving horsehair for the seats of chairs, and for rope-making.

Of the *castle*, which once stood above the source of the *Cary*, the name alone remains, with some grassy mounds indicating its site, and 4 pillars showing the position of the foundations of the keep, exposed in 1890, and then found to have been 78 ft. square, with walls 15 ft. in thickness. The last mention of it occurs in the reign of Stephen, when it played a part in the civil contests of that period.

Castle Cary was in early times the seat of the Luvells, descendants of Robert, lord of Breherval, one of the companions of the Conqueror, whose son, Ascelin (d. 1120), was surnamed *Lupus*, from the fierceness of his disposition. His son, William de Percival, was called *Lupellus*, softened into Lupel or Luvell, and lastly Lovel.

Ralph Lovel, son of William, joined the Empress Maud, and strengthened his castle at Cary. He ravaged all the adjacent country, sweeping it of the provisions needed by Stephen's army at Bristol. Stephen, on raising the siege of Bristol, at-

tacked Castle Cary so fiercely that the garrison surrendered in 1138. The Earl of Gloucester, in 1147, demolished Henry de Tracy's works, and compelled him to surrender. No further mention of Cary Castle has been found.

The *Ch.*, perched upon a hillock, forms a pretty picture. It is a graceful Perp. building, which in 1856 received a new tower and spire, and was in great part rebuilt by Mr. Ferrey. It contains a font dating from Henry VI., and a richly carved pulpit, bearing statues of the Apostles. Opposite this church is

Castle Cary Park (entrance through a gate opposite the *Ch.*), on a prettily broken hill-side. From its summit, which is called **Lodge Hill** (500 ft.), "at favourable times of the tide, the glistening surface of the Bristol Channel is clearly discernible."—*Canon Meade.* The view embraces the vales of Bridgwater and Taunton, the Quantock and Blackdown hills, the last extending to Exmoor; towards the N.W., Brent Knoll and Glastonbury Tor; N.E., the conical top of Creech Hill; and E., the far-seen tower of Stourton. The hill was probably the chase or park of the barons who once dwelt here.

The *Market-house*, with a clock-tower, was built in 1856. —Penrose, *Arch.*

Charles II., on his escape after the defeat at Worcester, arrived at Castle Cary, Sept. 16th, 1651, disguised as Mrs. Jane Lane's groom, under the name of William Jackson. He slept there and went on next day to Trent. Within the village are the springs of the river *Cary*, which forms a pond at its fountain-head, and in its course gives its name to Babcary, Lytes Cary, Cary Fitzpaine, etc.

PLACES NEAR CASTLE CARY.

(a) Road to Wincanton (see p. 3).

There are two main roads from Castle Cary to Wincanton, known respectively as the "Upper" and the "Lower." The former (6 m.) is one of the prettiest in the county. Winding over the hills, it gives the traveller delicious peeps at distant vales and heights, and at certain points a variety of distances in connection with a rich foreground. At 1½ m. it passes on l. *Hadspen House* (Henry Hobhouse, Esq., M.P.), a grey old mansion beneath a wood, through which a walk is seen to climb. The entrenched height of *Cadbury* is a striking object from this road.

(b) **Alford,** 2¼ m. W., has a very beautiful and well-restored *Ch.*, a specimen of the Perp. of Henry VI. The screens and bench ends have rich carvings, and the windows good stained glass, some ancient. The pulpit of oak is dated 1625. In the churchyard is a fine cross, late 13th-century. S. of the village is *Alford Well*, a mineral spring formerly much used. *Alford House* (J. H. Thring, Esq., J.P.).

(c) At **Yarlington,** 3 m. S. of Castle Cary, are some remains of the manor house, and in the church an ancient and curiously sculptured font. Adjoining the

village is *Yarlington Lodge* (T. E. Rogers, Esq., D.L., J.P.), and on the hill-top to the W. the earthworks of a camp.

The rly. passes rt. **North Barrow,** where the small *Ch.*, rebuilt 1860, retains some ancient portions, and *South Barrow*, and reaches

134 m. **Sparkford** Station. Sparkford *Ch.* was rebuilt 1824, but the chancel and tower arches were preserved.

1½ m. l. is the entrenched height of

Cadbury, or the hill-fort. [*Cad*, or *Cath* (British), war, battle, and the A.-S. *byrig*, a fortified camp.] The ascent to the hill-top is by a steep lane on the N.E. side, not far from South Cadbury Church. Half-way up are two locked gates, side by side, one of which must be surmounted. Descend by an obvious descent on the S.W. side, and walk half round the hill by a footpath on the fourth rampart in a N. direction. It is a conical summit on the escarpment of the oolite, abutting on the plain which extends to Ilchester, and encircled at the top by 4 deep ditches in concentric rings, and by as many bulky ramparts of earth and stone, with detached outworks on the N. and N.E. The S. side is terraced with "lynchets." These formidable defences enclose an area of about 30 acres, in the centre of which is a moated mound or prætorium called **King Arthur's Palace.** Cadbury is mentioned in old records under the title of *Camelot*, probably derived from the Celtic *Kam*, crooked, applied to the windings of the river Camel, which runs near, giving a name to the villages of Queen's Camel and West Camel, and also to the river Camel and town of Camelford, in Cornwall, near King Arthur's castle of Tintagel.

> "Like Camelot what place was ever yet renowned,
> Where, as at Carlion, he kept the table round?" *Drayton.*

Many interesting relics have been found in this camp: round stones for slings, a silver horseshoe, and numerous coins, chiefly of Antonius and Faustina, proving that this fortress was occupied by the Romans, whatever might have been its origin. This by common tradition is assigned to King Arthur, who, in the opinion of Camden, fought a battle with the Saxons near the spot. In the fourth ditch on the N. side is a spring called **King Arthur's Well,** or the Wishing Well, said to possess many marvellous virtues, and sharing with the lonely "palace" on the top the reverence of the country people, who, indeed, imagine the whole hill to be haunted ground, and believe it to be hollow within and to be gradually sinking. A second well, within the ramparts, is locally called Queen Anne's Well, doubtless a corruption of St. Anne's Well.

King Arthur's Hunting Causeway is an old track running between South Cadbury and South Barrow in a N.W. direction. It is somewhat difficult to discover, but the visitor will find it interesting to trace it across the fields.

The village of **South Cadbury** lies in a narrow valley, under the N.E. side of the camp. The *Ch.*, standing very picturesquely immediately under the rampart, is a pleasing little building, well restored, with a modern chancel. The S. arcade is Trans. between E.E. and Dec., the western respond being singularly banded.

North Cadbury was formerly a possession of the De Moels, representative of the Norman tenant Bernard de Newmarche, from whom it passed by marriage to the Botreaux, Hungerfords, and Hastings. The *Ch.* was built by Elizabeth, lady of William, last Lord Botreaux (c. 1427), who intended to place there a college of priests. The tower is of earlier date, built by John Ferroure, parson of the parish (c. 1394), and is hardly worthy of the church. It is a very stately edifice, dedicated to St. Michael, all of one date, except the arcades, which are Dec. worked up again, and raised when the church was rebuilt. There are N. and S. porches, panelled round the doorway, groined in stone, with stair turret and parvises over. The chancel is very lofty and well proportioned, with a noble E. window filled with good glass by Clayton and Bell, flanked with niches exhibiting some original colouring. The chancel arch is of grand proportions. The oaken tiebeam roofs are excellent. Placed now under the tower are 3 altar-tombs, one bearing the effigies of Sir William and Lady Elizabeth Botreaux, another commemorating Sir Francis Hastings and his wife, Lady Magdalene, 1596, in whose honour is an epitaph of 15 stanzas in a plate against the wall. The third bears the date 1611, and has over it a shield with the arms of Ewens and Hales impaled. The oak seats bear the date 1538, and exhibit much curious carving, which deserves attention; many coats of arms, probably of local families, being represented upon them. Whichcot, Provost of King's, was rector here 1643–50, and was succeeded by *Ralph Cudworth*, the author of the "Intellectual System" (d. 1688). Adjoining it is **Cadbury House** (J. Wentworth Bennett, Esq.), an Elizabethan gabled mansion, built by the third Earl of Huntingdon about 1581. The *hall* is a fine room, 48 ft. by 22 ft., with a large bay window, filled with armorial bearings. The S. front is modern. It contains some Italian paintings, including a copy of Guido's Aurora, by Raffaelle Mengs. The long range of stabling bears the date 1607.

Sutton Montis, on the S. side of Cadbury Camp, has a church with interesting Norm. arch and chancel, with Early Dec. windows.

[2½ m. E. of Sparkford is **Compton Pauncefoot,** a very well-kept and pretty little village. The *Ch.* is Perp., and has a low stone spire, a very unusual feature in this district. The S. porch has a rich door with niches. The windows contain much deeply tinted modern Brussels glass, on the merits of which opinions may be allowed to differ.

¼ m. S.E. of the village is **Compton Castle** (Mrs. Andrew Mac Creery), a modern castellated

mansion, with a fine sheet of water in front. Within, the octagonal hall and staircase have a fine effect.

3 m. E. **Blackford**. The little aisleless *Ch.*, Perp., has a low, ivy-clad pinnacled tower, and a Norm. S. door with enriched mouldings. The font is Early Norm.

Hazelgrove House, ½ m. rt. of Sparkford Stat., seat of Rev. Arundell St. John Mildmay, built 1730. Its park is remarkable for its enormous oaks. One, mentioned by Loudon, is 80 ft. in height, and has a trunk 30 ft. in circumference, at 4 ft. from the ground. S.W., 1 m., the village of

Weston Bampfylde, 1 m. S.E. of Sparkford, has a curious tower, square base, and octagonal upper story.

Queen's Camel, belonging in olden times to the De Burghs, noted for a sulphurous spring, which rises 1 m. to the W. of it. Queen's Camel *Ch.*, which was given by Hubert de Burgh, Earl of Kent, in 1202, to Cleeve Abbey, is quite worth a visit for its tall and stately tower and fine interior, which has a low Dec. arcade and Perp. windows and roof, a very rich screen surmounted by a rood-loft, a fine Perp. oaken pulpit, large coarse sedilia, and a good piscina with a triple ogee canopy. The font is one of very remarkable design, with niches and statues at the angles. The Jacobean Mildmay pew deserves notice. There are monuments to the Mildmays, including one to Sir Humphrey (d. 1690), who was wounded at Newbury fight.]

The line now enters a broad marshy vale, which sweeps past Ilchester to Langport, along the banks of the Yeo. It is bounded by an amphitheatre of hills. 1 m. W. is **West Camel**. During a recent restoration of the church a fragment of the shaft of a stone cross carved with interlacing serpents, of the type common in Ireland, was discovered.

136¾ m. **Marston** Stat. The *Ch.* is small and plain, with a low square tower, and N. chantry containing a very elaborate niche for a statue. The E. window is a plain E.E. triplet. The N. wall of the chancel has one very early light, and some herring-bone work. There is a good Norm. font. The clock is said to have been brought from Glastonbury Abbey. To the S.W. of the *Ch.* is a long Jacobean house, one room of which is decorated with coarse scriptural paintings of the 17th century on canvas. In the fields to the S.E. of the *Ch.* is a moated enclosure, locally reputed to have been the site of an episcopal palace. It was either the mansion of the family of Beauchamp, or the grange of Polshoe Nunnery, who were owners of the rectory.

[1 m. E. of Marston is **Rimpton**, a manor of the see of Winchester from before the Conquest. The small, pretty, and well-restored *Ch.* deserves notice. The chancel is very early Dec., with an eastern triplet, and single lights in the side walls. The nave has its original benches, with very handsome carved ends, resembling those at North Cadbury. The pulpit is Jacobean. The grandfather of the famous Dr. Sacheverell was

incumbent here during the Commonwealth. 1½ m. further E., recently added to Dorsetshire, is the pretty village of **Sandford Orcas,** with a very picturesque and well-restored **Manor House,** with old-fashioned gardens, bowling-green, turf steps, and terraces (Hubert Hutchings, Esq., J.P.). The hall is a fine room, lighted by a large oriel window containing heraldic glass. It contains a fine oak screen The *Ch.* has been almost rebuilt, but retains Dec. windows and an E.E. lancet in the chancel, a S. chantry with a richly panelled roof, and a curious E.E. circular font. There is a singular monument to William Knoyle, the former possessor of the manor (d. 1607), and his two wives. The manor derives its name of Orcas from the Norman family Orescuitz, who formerly held it. Bp. Godwin, the author of the "Catalogue of the English Bishops," and of the "Man in the Moon" (d. 1633), was at one time rector.

The rly. passes l. *Trent* (see *post*) and **Over Compton** (*Compton House*, John Goodden, Esq., a picturesque gabled mansion of modern Gothic. The *Ch.* contains monuments of the Gooddens. It has a good Perp. tower), and, running under *Babylon Hill*, reaches

141 m. ✲*Pen Mill Stat.* for YEOVIL.

[The town or joint station of S.W. and G.W. Rlys. is ½ m. off, on the Sherborne road, at the foot of Summerhouse Hill. The main line of the S.W. Rly. from London to Exeter passes through Yeovil Junction, 1½ m. from Pen Mill Stat. The Weymouth branch of the G.W. Rly., by Maiden Newton and Dorchester, passes through Pen Mill Stat., but not the junction. There is also a branch of the G.W. Rly. joining the Bristol and Exeter section at Durston, near Taunton.]

✲**YEOVIL** (Pop. 9648) is a busy, handsome town, built of red brick and yellow Hamhill stone, and situated on a hill-side sloping to the Yeo, from which it derives its name. It is in a pretty country, and on the old coach-road from London to the west. Its chief manufacture is that of kid gloves, which is extensively carried on here. Gloves are made both in the town and in the neighbourhood, and sail-cloth at the villages of *East*, *West*, and *Middle Chinnock*.

In July, 1645, Yeovil was held by the King's forces, who were expelled by Fairfax and his men before the decisive victory of Langport.

The **Church of St. John Baptist** is a very noble edifice, cruciform in plan, with stately square tower, 90 ft. high at the W. end. The height of the side aisles and large size of the windows give it grace and lightness, and hence it has been called "the Lantern of the West." "It is," says Mr. Freeman, "one grand and harmonious whole, as truly the work of real artistic genius as Cologne, or Winchester, or St. Ouen's."

The nave is very lofty and of stately proportions, with wide side aisles and a noble tower arch, and good dark cradle-roof. The S. porch is a fine composition. Under the chancel is an

early 13th-century crypt, groined from a central pillar, used as a vestry, entered by a canopied doorway richly groined in the head. The windows contain rich modern stained glass, that in the tower to the memory of the Prince Consort. There is an ancient brass *lectern*, the gift of one Martin Forester, bearing an inscription violating all laws of grammar and prosody:—

"Precibus nunc precor cernuis hinc eja rogate,
Frater Martinus Forester vita vigiletque beate."

In the chancel is a bust of the Rev. Robert Phelips, vicar (d. 1855), by Westmacott. The *new schools* to the W. group well with the church.

Trinity Church, Peter Street, was built 1843–6, after a design by B. Ferrey. It is in the E.E. style.

The **Town Hall**, above the Corn Exchange and market, is an Ionic building, with a clock turret, erected 1849.

Some old houses deserve notice.

The **George Inn**, in Middle Street, is a good specimen of an old hostelry. It was formerly called the Three Cups. The **Castle Inn** is another ancient building, which is believed to have been one of the six chantries which originally existed in the town. Many other mediæval buildings must have been destroyed by the fire which burnt 117 houses in 1449.

A view of Yeovil from *Summerhouse Hill* will well repay a walk of 10 minutes. Proceed down Middle Street as far as South Street, where the footbridge over the rly. will lead you to the foot of the hill. At the foot of the eminence runs the Great Western Railway, and between it and the river, in rich park-like grounds, is **Newton House**, or Newton Surmaville, an Elizabethan building, seat of the old family of Harbin.

Hendford (Mrs. Blomfield) is a large modern mansion, surrounded with fine pleasure-grounds; *Pen House* (J. Bradford, Esq.) is seated on an eminence in a beautiful garden. Other residences are—*Hendford Manor* (J. B. Paynter, Esq.); *Aldon* (J. Batten, Esq., J.P., D.L.); *Hollands* (H. B. Batten, Esq.); *Kingston Manor* (T. Dampier-Bide, Esq.); *Swallowcliffe* (T. W. Mayo, Esq.).

Another view of the town, with a more extended landscape, may be obtained from the slope of *Babylon Hill*, about 1 m. on the road to Sherborne.

Coker Court, 3 m. S. (Colonel J. Mount Batten, J.P.), belongs to the Helyar family.

Excursions.

(a) To Preston, Brympton, Odcombe, Montacute, and Stoke-sub-Hamdon.

Leaving Yeovil at the N.W. angle, we reach in 1 m.

Preston Plucknett, the site of a grange of Bermondsey Abbey, a very picturesque group of buildings, especially the remains of the Perp. hall, groined porch, and tithe-barn. The octagonal chimney, with double tiers of pierced panels, now

blocked up, is worthy of particular notice. The *Ch.* is E.E. At the foot of the road the tourist should take that (on l.) to Crewkerne for a short distance, and then turn to the l. through park-gates just after crossing the line to

***Brympton d'Evercy,** 3 m. W. of Yeovil. From the parsonage a striking architectural group is seen lying in the hollow below, consisting of a large stately mansion, a smaller house, and the church, all worthy of attentive study. The *Church*, originally a small cruciform aisleless Dec. building, has gone through many alterations. It has a singular bell-cot, perched on the apex of the western gable, for which it is many sizes too large. The Geometrical window of the S. transept, the foliated arch connecting it with nave, and the S. door, the piscina in the N. transept, and stone chancel screen, with bench-table on its W. side, all deserve notice. The Sydenhams have made this their burial-place since Edward IV. In the N. transept are a number of interesting but over-restored tombs, over one of which is a carving of the Crucifixion which "has absolutely been purposely but half finished, and left in that condition to give it the air of antiquity."—*Barratt.* There is a handsome modern monument to Jane, Countess of Westmoreland (d. 1857). To the N. of the churchyard stands the **Chantry House,** said to have been built temp. Henry VII. for 3 priests, though other authorities claim that it was the old manor-house. It has a fine octagon staircase turret, and good ceilings within. The **Mansion House** (Hon. Sir S. C. B. Ponsonby-Fane, K.C.B., J.P.) has a fine W. front, 130 ft. long, of good Perp. character. The N.W. portion is the Tudor work of John Sydenham, and has a splendid display of oriels, turrets, chimneys, and open battlements. The hall was modernized temp. Elizabeth. The S. or garden front was built after Inigo Jones's death from his designs, according to Horace Walpole. The rooms are large and lofty, and contain some good tapestry, and excellent portraits by *Lely* and other eminent masters. The manor was originally held by the D'Evercy family. In the time of Edward IV. it came into the possession of the Stourtons, from whom it passed by marriage to the Sydenhams, in whose hands it remained until 1730, when it was purchased by Mr. Jane.

A pretty upland walk, ½ m. from Brympton, leads to **Odcombe**, from the churchyard of which village a most extensive view can be obtained of the surrounding country. *Tom Coryatt*, who called himself "the Odcombian Legstretcher" (b. 1577), was the son of a rector of Odcombe. He was educated at Westminster School and Gloucester Hall, Oxford, and then became a member of the household of Henry, Prince of Wales. He started on Whitsun Eve, May 14th, 1608, on a pedestrian tour through Europe, and returned Oct. 3rd of the same year, after walking 1975 miles. He started again for a visit to the East, Oct. 20th, 1612, reached Jerusalem April 12th, 1614, and, after visiting the court of the Great Mogul,

died at Surat, Dec., 1617. It is commonly asserted that he walked 900 m. in one pair of shoes, and on his return hung them up as curious relics in Odcombe Church. He published his travels under the title, "Crudities hastily gobled up in 5 moneth trauells newly digested in the hungry air of Odcombe." He is said to have introduced into England the use of *table-forks*. Odcombe was also the birthplace of *Humphrey Hody*, Regius Professor of Greek at Oxford (b. 1659). The tower of the Perp. *Ch.* stands between the nave and chancel.

1¼ m. beyond Odcombe brings us by a pretty walk to Montacute.

***Montacute House**, seat of W. R. Phelips, Esq., D.L., J.P. (4 m. on the road to South Petherton). It is a very imposing and beautiful structure, built, as is believed, from the designs of John Thorpe, alias John of Padua, who was also the architect of Burleigh and Longleat, between the years 1580 and 1601, by Sir Edward Phelips, Queen's Serjeant, afterwards Master of the Rolls and Speaker of the House of Commons, whose father and ancestors had resided at Barrington Court, near Ilminster. It is in the form of an H, of Hamhill stone, and pierced on its E. front, 170 ft. long, by no less than 41 Tudor windows. The spaces between these windows on the second story are occupied by 8 statues, which, with a ninth in the centre gable, are asserted by Coryatt in his "Crudities" to represent "the nine worthies." The W. front is equally handsome, and has the addition of a gorgeous screen, which was brought from Clifton Maybank. The arms over the doorway also came from Clifton, those of Phelips excepted. The principal entrance bears the hospitable motto—

"Through this wide-opening gate
None come too early, none return too late";

the garden door, "And yours, my friends." The *hall* is a stately apartment with singing-gallery and screen, and a bas-relief which represents the ancient punishment of "riding the Skimmington." The upper story of the house is almost entirely occupied by a single room, 185 ft. in length and 21 ft. in breadth, now unfurnished. The drawing-room in the W. wing, reached by a winding stone staircase, has a rich panelled and fretted ceiling, and elaborate woodwork, especially a splendid doorcase, with the motto *Hoc age*. The library contains some fine old heraldic glass. The *gardens* are in the Italian style, with terraces and fountains, and domed alcoves. In the Civil War, 1645, Montacute was sacked by the Parliamentary forces, and was for a short time occupied by Cromwell.

The **Church** (greatly restored) belongs principally to the Trans. period between E.E. and Dec. The chancel arch is plain Norm., those of the S. transept E.E., of the N. Dec.; the font and tower are Perp. On the N. side of the nave is a curious arabesque Norm. arch, formerly over the N. door. The organ near this is supported by a row of stone brackets, of which the most easterly is old, and was dug up in the churchyard. The others are modern copies of originals in the South Kensington Museum.

The font had a solid stone cover, which was raised by means of a pulley and chain. It is not, however, now used. Here are the monuments of the Phelipses: Sir David Phelips and Anne his wife, with effigies, 1484; Bridget Phelips, 1508; Sir T. Phelips and wife, 1598. The churchyard contains the shaft of a cross bearing the figure of a mitred ecclesiastic with the pastoral staff under a canopy. Adjoining are the remains of

Montacute Priory, supposed to have been founded for Cluniac monks by William, Earl of Moreton, temp. Henry I. They consist of some domestic buildings, and a very fine Perp. gateway, with an oriel and bold staircase turret, more like the gateways of the older Oxford colleges than ordinary conventual entrances. The E. front, facing the meadows, is singularly lovely. On one battlement are the arms of England, and on the other the letters "T. C.," probably the initials of Thomas Chard, the last prior. The village, originally known as Leodgaresburh, and afterwards as Biscopeston, is called by Leland a town, in whose time it possessed a "poore" market. It derives its present name from the *mons acutus* at the foot of which it stands. There are some interesting houses, and particularly one in the market-place with a good oriel window, whereon is a shield bearing the letters "R. S." (probably Robert Sherborne, a former prior), separated by a pastoral staff.

Above Montacute rise two pyramidal hills (whence *mons acutus*), clothed with wood to their summits. The E. is **St. Michael's,** on which, in the days of Tofig the Proud — a great Danish thane, "stallere" to Canute, at whose wedding-feast with Gytha Hardicanute fell dead—"the holy cross of Waltham" was discovered, after a search made in obedience to a thrice-repeated vision to a smith, who was also the sexton of the village. On digging, a large crucifix was discovered, which Tofig sent to his manor of Waltham, together with a smaller crucifix, and bell, and book. A castle was built on the summit by William the Conqueror's "insatiable brother" Robert of Mortain, Earl of Cornwall, "at once a badge of the presence of the stranger and an object of the bitterest hatred to the men of the western lands, looking down like a vulture's nest on the surrounding hills and the rich valleys at its foot" (*E. A. F.*), which was vainly besieged by the men of Somerset and Dorset in 1069, who were defeated and put to flight by Bp. Geoffrey of Coutances. The castle has entirely perished, and a prospect tower has been erected on its site. [The key is kept at the Hall.] The summit of the hill commands a splendid view: W., to the hills below Minehead and Blackdown; N.E., over Taunton, the Quantocks, the Channel, Welsh coast; N., Brent Knoll, Mendip, Glastonbury Tor; E., Creech, and Knoll, Alfred's Tower; S., over Dorset hills to Lambert's Castle, near Lyme. Beyond these, again, are **Hamhill** and **Stoke Down,** forming a promontory on the escarpment of the oolite, which strikes S. from this point towards Crewkerne. Some entrenchments confirm the

statement that this eminence was fortified after the Conquest. Perhaps the want of water prevented its being continued as a stronghold.

The road to Hamhill passes the church of **East Stoke,** or

Stoke-sub-Hamdon, than which "few churches, great or small, are more interesting."—*E.A.F.* It is a cruciform, aisleless building, with a tower over the N. transept, of which the belfry stage is a beautiful specimen of E.E. masonry. The original fabric is Norm., with additions and insertions. The W. window is excellent Dec., the E. window Perp., the transepts and tower E.E. Some of the original windows, the doorways, and chancel arch remain little altered. On each side of the chancel is a low side window. On the tympanum of the N. door is a rude carving. In the centre is a tree with three birds in its branches; on the rt. of this is the Lamb with the cross; beyond, on the l., an archer with his bow bent, on the rt. a lion. The inscription, which is partly defaced, reads:—

"Sagittarius . . . v . . . leo."

The N. porch has a good groined roof; the room over it, which is used as a vestry, has also a stone-ribbed roof. Observe on the exterior part of a curious canopy in the angle between the W. wall of this porch and the N. wall of the nave. In this wall are two Norm. slits, over one of which is a rude carving of St. Michael and the dragon. Note also the fine Norm. corbel-table on the outer walls of the chancel. The chancel arch is of 3 very massive orders, flanked on either side by a large rude squint. There is a most curious double piscina across the S.E. angle of the chancel, and another similarly placed in the S. transept. The piscina for the rood-loft altar remains to the S. The N. transept beneath the tower has groining springing from very curious corbels, E.E., and is divided from the church by a Perp. stone screen. The font is Norm., tub-shaped, with the cable and zigzag moulding. There is an hour-glass on a stand by the pulpit. Under a foliated canopy in the S. transept is an effigy ascribed to Matthew de Gournay, born at Stoke (d. 1406, aged 96). He fought at Cressy and Poictiers. To the N. of the chancel is a Jacobean effigy under a coarse Renaissance canopy. There is also an effigy of a priest of late 14th-century work. Beyond Stoke Church we can turn up a road to the l., and visit

Hamdon or **Hamhill,** and its *quarries*, for centuries celebrated for their building-stone, an oolite, which, though coloured by iron, and containing more siliceous sand than the oolite of Bath, is little inferior to it in durability, and an equally beautiful material, as may be seen by the houses of Montacute and Sherborne Castle. The pits are scattered over the hill, which they pierce to a depth of about 100 ft., exhibiting a fawn-coloured rock, sometimes grained like wood. On the summit of Hamdon is a well-known British camp, the N.E. portion of which was occupied and altered by the Romans. It is one of the most extensive earthworks in the

West of England, includes about 200 acres, and is about 3 m. in circumference. The remains of chariot-wheels have been found in it. At the N. angle is a hollow called "the Frying-pan," probably an amphitheatre, and near it, now unfortunately nearly all destroyed from wanton malice, a unique series of low perforated stones, much overgrown, supposed by some to have been used for tethering the horses or securing the tents. From this camp the visitor may enjoy a panorama of distant hills, complete but at one point, where the eye meets with a check in St. Michael's Hill. The great landmarks of the county are, however, in view, and from Rana Hill, in the S., you may range round the horizon by the Blackdowns, the Brendons, the Quantocks, the sea at Bridgwater, the Mendips, the hills from Bath to Sherborne, and Bubb Down, over Melbury. At the foot of Hamdon is the village of

West Stoke, inhabited by quarry-men, where, at Beauchamp Castle, founded temp. Edward I., of which no remains still persist, was a collegiate chapel, founded by John de Beauchamp in 1304, in which a chantry was founded by Hugh, son of Matthew de Gournay, one of the murderers of Edward II., for masses for his father's soul. The chantry-house, known as the Parsonage Farm, is approached from the road by a Tudor arch. On the rt. of the entrance is the hall, still possessing a fine timber roof; on the l., a gable, topped by a bell-turret. This has often, but incorrectly, been supposed to have been the chapel. The priests resident in this chantry-house, however, served the chapel at Beauchamp Castle.

A mile walk across the fields, under the western slopes of *Ham Hill*, leads to **Norton-sub-Hamdon,** beautifully situated under wooded heights. The *Ch.* was restored in 1862, but on the 29th July, 1894, it was struck by lightning, which caused a fire, whereby the tower, bells, clock, and font were destroyed; they have since been replaced. Roman and British pottery and other remains have recently been discovered here.

(b) To **Trent** (now included in Dorsetshire).

N. of Babylon Hill and 4 m. from Yeovil, where Charles II. lay concealed for more than a fortnight after the battle of Worcester. It was from this place that he made his unsuccessful attempt to escape at Lyme, under the guidance of his host, Colonel Wyndham. Trent **Manor House** (A. Baillie, Esq.), the property of Mrs. Seymour, is but a portion of the old building, containing Lady Wyndham's parlour and the King's hiding-place in the roof, carefully preserved.

The **Church**, originally belonging to Studley Priory, in Warwickshire, is a very interesting building, which has received some splendid decorations from the munificence of a former rector, the Rev. W. H. Turner. It has, to the S. of the nave, a tower and stone spire (Dec.)—a very unusual feature in this district—and a polygonal baptistery

(a modern addition) at the W. end. Nearly all the windows are filled with stained glass, principally modern. The rood-loft and screen remain, and are remarkably rich. The bench-ends are good, particularly four inscribed "Ave Maria." Notice particularly the "Flight into Egypt." The carved oak pulpit was brought from Belgium. The bas-reliefs represent various scenes from our Lord's infancy and childhood. The N. chapel (Dec.) is entered through an arch painted with laurel branches and leaves, among which are 40 shields, representing the alliances of the families of Coker and Gerard. At the N. end are two stone effigies, one in armour, cross-legged (probably Roger Wyke), the other a very singular one, partly in military, partly in civil costume. There is also a monument to Sir Francis Wyndham, who, as Colonel Wyndham, concealed Charles II. in his mansion of Trent. In the chancel is a curious monument to Tristram Stork (1532).

A fragment of a cross, with a cylindrical shaft and steps, stands in the churchyard, adjoining which is a picturesque chantry-house, built by John Frank, Master of the Rolls, temp. Henry VI., and another stands a little further from the church. The Church Farm is another building, containing some ancient portions, which should not be missed.

ROUTE 5.

WITHAM TO SHEPTON MALLET AND WELLS.

(*East Somerset Branch of the G.W. Rly.*)

RAIL.	PLACES.
	Witham.
2¼ m.	Wanstrow.
5¾ m.	Cranmore.
9 m.	Shepton Mallet.

Leaving *Witham* Junction, the line runs W.N.W. to

2¼ m. *Wanstrow* Stat. The nave of **Cloford Church**, 2 m. N.W., was rebuilt 1856. The chancel, long disused, has been restored by Mr. Horner. In the N. chapel are monuments to the Horners, including an altar-tomb to Maurice Horner (d. 1621), and a quaint one to Sir George Horner (d. 1676) and his lady. Thence to

5¾ m. *Cranmore* Stat., at **West Cranmore**, where the *Ch.* has a good tower of the Taunton type, and contains monuments of the Strodes. It possesses an ancient open bier with the inscription, "Richard Dole, churchwarden." *South Hill House* (W. Belgrave, Esq.) is the property of Frederick Spencer, Esq., D.L., J.P. *Cranmore Hall* is the residence of Sir R. H. Paget, Bart. On the top of the hill, 1 m. N.W., 900 ft. above the sea, 2 m. from the stat., a prospect tower has been built, commanding a splendid

view. 1¾ m. S. of the stat. is **Chesterblade** (Rte. 1).

Doulting, N. of the rly., 1½ m. W. of Cranmore Stat., 2 m. E. of Shepton Mallet, should be visited for the sake of its fine *Ch.*, *barn*, and *quarries* of excellent building-stone in the inferior oolite, which supplied the materials of the cathedral and St. Cuthbert's Church at Wells, Glastonbury Abbey, etc. The **Church,** dedicated to St. Aldhelm (much restored), is cruciform, without aisles, with an octagonal central tower (a good plain example of the 13th century), crowned with a later spire. The *nave* is E.E., the *chancel* Dec.; the *S. porch* (rebuilt; the stones of the old porch may be seen in the rectory garden) is very rich Perp., with a pendant. The N. door is Norm. There are 5 large and fine-toned bells. A short distance from the church stands a very fine old **barn,** formerly belonging to the abbots of Glastonbury, built in the early part of 15th century, with ornaments over one of the porches. In the churchyard is a 15th-century **cross,** with the instruments of the Passion carved on its base. This was probably a sanctuary cross, the precincts of the church having enjoyed this privilege.

Within the vicarage grounds is **St. Aldhelm's Well,** the source of the little river which is the motive power of the weavers of Shepton. St. Aldhelm died here May 25th, A.D. 709. "When he felt himself stricken for death, he desired his attendants to carry him into the little wooden church, where, having commended his soul to God, he calmly breathed his last." His body was carried for interment, by his own desire, to St. Michael's Chapel at Malmesbury, a distance of 50 m. Stone crosses were set up at every 7 m. along the road, known afterwards as Bishopstones. Bp. Egwin of Worcester came to conduct the funeral.

Continuing down the valley, watered by the Sheppy, with the southern slopes of Mendip rising rt., we reach

9 m. ✻**SHEPTON MALLET** Stat. (Pop. 5500) (the Somerset and Dorset line has also a station at ¾ m. E. of that of the G.W. Rly.), commonly known as "Shepun," a busy, flourishing town, containing one of the gaols for the county of Somerset.

The old town, 2 m. long and very narrow, lies by the stream in the bottom of the valley. The principal street of the more modern town crosses the valley by a viaduct. That it is situated in a country of stone is obvious from the numerous ugly fences which partition the fields.

Shepton derives its distinguishing name from the *Mallets*, its Norman lords. It was the birthplace of *Simon Browne*, a learned Protestant Dissenter, an opponent of Woolston and Tindal (b. 1680); also of *Hugh Inge*, Archbishop of Dublin and Chancellor of Ireland (d. 1528); and *Dr. Walter Charleton*, author of "Chorea Gigantum," an account of Stonehenge (b. 1619).

Shepton was a very early possession of the monastery of Glastonbury. The manor was subsequently held under the abbey by Roger de Curcelle, a Norman noble, from whom it passed to the Mallets. Sir

William Mallet joined the confederate barons against King John, and holding his strong castle of Curry Mallet against him, his estates were confiscated, but afterwards restored on the payment of a fine. It then passed by purchase to the Gournays, one of whom, Sir Thomas Gournay, was one of the murderers of Edward II., who, having fled to Spain, was taken and drowned on his way back; another was the celebrated Matthew de Gournay, buried at Stoke-sub-Hamdon (Rte. 4). The manor again devolved to the Crown in 1536, and was subsequently granted to the Prince of Wales as Duke of Cornwall, to which duchy a considerable part of the parish belongs. In 1685 the Duke of Monmouth, with his irregular forces, paid two visits to Shepton, sleeping himself at Longbridge House. Twelve men, who had joined his cause, were executed in the market-place by Judge Jeffreys.

The **Church** is cruciform, with a good W. tower of the Taunton type, crowned with an incomplete spire, like that of Yatton. The aisles were rebuilt 1827, absorbing the transepts, and the chancel 1851. The two wide eastern bays of the nave, the arches of the chancel, and of the original transepts, are very E.E. In the chancel is a beautiful E.E. piscina. The wooden roof is one of the very finest in the country. It contains 350 panels, no two being alike, enriched with figures of angels holding shields, some of which are charged with the emblems of the Passion. There is a stone pulpit, together with some ancient crosses and two knightly recumbent effigies in chain-armour hoisted to the window-sills. The whole has been restored and reseated and arranged.

The **Market Cross,** erected 1500 by Walter and Agnes Buckland, hexagonal, surmounted by a pinnacled shaft 51 ft. high, ornamented with niches. Having become ruinous, it was carefully repaired in 1841. A brass plate on it bears the inscription, "Of yor charitye pray for the soules of Walter Buklond and Agnys his wyff, with whoys goods this cross was made in the yere of our Lord God M.D., whoys obytt shal be kepte for ever in the parysshe churche of Shepton Mallett, ye xxviii. day of November, on whoys soules Ihu pardon." The ancient *shambles* deserve notice. The town contains many curious old houses.

As early as the 14th century Shepton was a place of commercial importance. In 1790 more than 4000 hands were employed in the cloth trade. The manufacture of knitted stockings added to the industrial activity of the place. In addition to the manufactures of silk, velvet, crape, etc., now carried on, there are very extensive breweries, the Anglo-Bavarian brewery being an exceedingly large institution. Ropes are made in the parish, and there are large yards for brick and tile making. It is also one of the chief centres of the Cheddar cheese industry. Many hands are employed in the manufacture of boots and shoes. Shepton is a very busy place, and affords much to engage the attention of tourists who feel an interest in the commercial activity of the country. A kiln for baking *Roman pottery* was discovered

when building Messrs. Morrice and Cox's, now the Anglo-Bavarian, brewery, which was carefully preserved for some time, but has been removed. The *Fosseway* passes through the E. of Shepton on its way to Ilchester.

[The road from Shepton to Wells, 5 m., is one of the most beautiful in the county, and should be chosen in preference to the rly. **Croscombe,** "the Valley of the Cross," 2 m. on the Wells road, lies situated on the pretty stream which flows past Shepton, in a pleasing valley, once richly wooded. The views obtained from the high ground, near the Pilton direction-post, are some of the most fascinating in the county. The village has a **cross,** and a very interesting **church,** which has a stone spire, an unusual feature in this county. The arcades are Perp., and S. door E.E., but the mass of the fabric is Perp. of the usual type, with rich battlements. It contains an extraordinary amount of very finely carved woodwork, seats, bench-ends, etc., among which the truly magnificent cinque-cento pulpit, bearing Bp. Lake's arms and the date 1616, and chancel screen, rising nearly to the roof of the church, deserve special notice. These are probably, says the "Builder," about the best examples of English Jacobean woodwork in existence. They were mainly the gift of the Fortescues, wealthy mill-owners in the parish, in the days when Croscombe was a place of greater importance than it is now. The Fortescue arms are to be seen on the scutcheons in one of the panels of the chancel screen. The pulpit, which is dated 1616, is manifestly of the same date as the screens. On it are graven the arms of Bp. Lake, Bishop of Bath and Wells, 1616–26. The general effect of the pulpit is much heightened by the greater part of the body being richly coloured. Though these screens and pulpit are the most striking features in the church, yet even without them the church, with its beautiful spire, one of the most beautiful in England, its richly decorated roof, its bench-ends, mediæval and Jacobean, and its fine brass candelabra, teems with interest and instruction to the architectural student. The roof of the chancel is of the same date; that of the nave is carved in dark oak, and was the gift of the De Paulton family, about 1400. The S.E. end of the S. aisle is the De Paulton Chapel, and the N.E. end of the N. aisle is the Chapel of St. George, constructed at an early date by 12 men who, the old account-book says, came from Exeter on purpose to build it. The belfry has a fan-vault. There is a 2-storied vestry on the S. side of the tower, and a stone-ribbed N. chapel. Some monumental slabs and an incised cross are set up on either side of the reredos.

Croscombe is full of old houses, among which the village **inn**, of the 15th century, deserves especial notice. It has a remarkably good bay window, with a carved stone ceiling, good fireplaces, good panelled ceilings to the chief rooms, and an octagonal chimney on the gable. The hall of the **Manor House**, of the 15th century, N. of churchyard, is used as a Baptist chapel. **Ham Wood** is a

lovely wooded and rocky glen, more than 1 m. long. The cliff on the l. above the road commands a remarkable view.

1 m. W. on the road to Wells is **Dinder,** the manor house of the Somervilles (the small *Ch.* has a slender tower with an effective turret and a cross very picturesquely overgrown with ivy); and **Pilton,** with its good *Ch.* and fine abbatial *barn*, is 3 m. S.W. (Rte. 1).

Passing rt. **Dulcot Hill,** commanding a fine view of Wells and its cathedral (where the tourist will be repaid by walking over Dulcot Rock, taking his carriage again at the drinking-fountain below), the traveller will arrive at Wells (Rte 1).

ROUTE 6.

BATH TO EVERCREECH JUNCTION, BY WELLOW, RADSTOCK, AND SHEPTON MALLET.

(*Somerset and Dorset Joint Rly.*)

RAIL.	PLACES.
	Bath.
4½ m.	Midford.
6¾ m.	Wellow.
10¾ m.	Radstock.
12½ m.	Midsomer Norton.
14½ m.	Chilcompton.
17 m.	Binegar.
18½ m.	Maesbury.
22 m.	Shepton Mallet.
25 m.	Evercreech.
26¾ m.	Evercreech Junction.

This line, which, by Templecombe and Blandford, affords direct communication between Bath and the English Channel at Poole, leaves Bath at the Midland Stat., then, crossing the Avon, sweeps round to the E. of the city, and, passing through a long tunnel under Combe Down, reaches

4½ m. l. **Midford,** a village in a very pretty winding valley, with a little streamlet making its way to the Avon, spanned by a viaduct commanding a charming view up and down the dell. There is also a canal up the valley for the conveyance of coals for Radstock.

On rt., before reaching the stat., is *Midford Castle*, a picturesque modern house of triangular plan, beautifully situated on a terraced slope, with a deep glen on N. and E. clothed with wood and ornamented with a so-called "priory" and "hermitage."

PLACES NEAR MIDFORD.

(a) **South Stoke** (1½ m. rt.). The *Ch.*, rebuilt and enlarged 1845, has a Norm. N. door and font and a Perp. pinnacled tower.

(b) **Combehay** (2 m. rt.). *Combehay Manor House* (G. E. Smart, Esq.), embosomed in wooded hills, with lawns sloping down to an artificial lake and the village, where the churchyard contains the grave of the *poet Carrington*, the author of "Dartmoor," and a native of Plymouth (d. 1830). In the *Ch.*, chiefly modern, lies buried the fiery Cavalier Sir Lewes Dyves, the gallant defender of Sherborne Castle. Evelyn says of him, "He

was indeed a valiant gentleman, but not a little given to romance when he spake of himself." The road accompanies the canal, which ascends a steep slope by means of 22 locks.

(c) **West Dunkerton** (1½ m. l.). The *Ch.*, except the tower, was rebuilt in 1859. Here we enter the coal-field of which Radstock is the centre. The pits are sunk through no less than 3 formations before they reach the coal measures, namely, the lower oolite, the lias, and the new red sandstone. These strata would in some places make a total thickness of 2000 ft., but they are here reduced to less than 500 by the thinning out of many of the beds.

(d) **Priston** (2 m. N. of Dunkerton). The *Ch.* has on the S. side of the nave a Norm. corbel-table and a good doorway with a depressed arch, and on the S. of the chancel a priests' door, with a canopied weather moulding. The windows of the chancel are Dec., and in the interior have round their splay some very elegant cusped and foliated work. In one of the windows on the N. side this is a restoration, but in the other windows the original work remains. The Norm. arches under the tower and the Norm. arcading are entirely new, and not restored from any remains previously existing.

The rly. continues along the pretty valley on the l. bank of the stream to

6¾ m. **Wellow**. Its *Ch.* (St. Julian's), said to have been almost rebuilt by Sir Walter Hungerford, 1372, is among the finest village churches in the county, remarkable for the very fine oak roof of the Perp. period, with well-carved bosses and moulded beams rising from good stone corbels. The roof of the Hungerford Chapel is richly coloured and gilt. It was restored in 1845, and again 1879. The richly carved wooden roof, chancel screen, and E.E. font are particularly worth notice. There is a good effigy of an ecclesiastic. A **manor house** formerly belonging to the Hungerfords, and now the property of J. G. Willis, Esq., is still standing near the churchyard. It was erected in 1634, and contains some good oak carving. In a cottage garden is the holy well of St. Julian, according to local tradition the abode of a "white lady," who appeared when any evil threatened the house of Hungerford. In a field called Wellow Hayes, about ½ m. W., a **Roman villa** was discovered in 1685. The rich tessellated pavements buried beneath the earth have from time to time been laid bare for inspection. About ¾ m. S.W., at **Stoney Littleton**, is a chambered tumulus 107 ft. by 54 ft., and 13 ft. high, formed into chambers or cysts by large flagstones. One cyst, near the entrance, is about 6 ft. by 5 ft.; a straight passage, 47 ft. 6 inches long, leads to another cyst in the centre of the barrow of about equal size. There are also six smaller cysts facing each other, so as to form three transepts across the passage and another at the end. It was restored by

the Rev. T. R. Joliffe in 1858, and is kept locked.

[3 m. S.E. is **Norton St. Philip** (7 m. S.E. of Bath, 3 m. from Freshford Stat.), a place of antique appearance, described by Leland as a "pratie market town," formerly noted for its large cloth fair. The cloth merchants held their markets in the upper room of the *George Inn*, a very interesting, half-timbered 15th-century house, erroneously stated to have been the grange of the Prior of Hinton, to whom the market and wool fair belonged. It has bay windows and a porch, an octagonal stair turret and good chimneys, and a grand old dovecot. At the entrance of the village stands an enormous elm, of which the trunk forms a summer-house. In this place occurred a skirmish between the army of the Duke of Monmouth and the King's troops under Feversham, June 26th, 1685. The latter having been repulsed, Monmouth, who had passed the night at the George, and had been shot at as he stood at the window, with a view to the reward offered for his life, marched upon Frome, where, hearing of the defeat of Argyll and the advance of a strong force from London, he determined to return to Bridgwater, to lose his cause on the fatal field of Sedgemoor. The *Ch.*, "eccentric from beginning to end" (*E. A. F.*), probably built of old materials reworked, perhaps from Hinton Abbey, is a fine building of Perp. date, well restored by Sir G. G. Scott, with a rich tower, belonging to no known type. It contains a canopied tomb with an effigy of a merchant, and the monument of the so-called "twin ladies of Foxcote," now placed in the Tower, which Pepys saw and described as "the fair maids of Foscott, that had two bodies upward and one belly, and there lie buried." If the account of these sisters is true, they were the Two-Headed Nightingale of their period. (See Collinson's "History of Somerset," iii. 371.) Here also Pepys saw "a very ancient tomb of some Knight Templar, I think."]

Proceeding on our route, and passing l. *Foxcote* and *Writhlington*, we reach

10¾ m. **Radstock** Sta. (Pop. 3438), a busy, thriving place, owing its prosperity to the coal-pits, which afford employment to a large population, and have converted a pretty village into an unattractive town. There is little to attract the archæologist, but the geologist will find it a good field for his researches. Its name has been erroneously derived from the red sandstone on which it stands; but it is really called from the Fosseway, close to which it stands, Radstock, *i.e.*, road-village. The *Ch.*, Dec., contains some remains of the rood-loft and a Norm. font. There is a much-mutilated crucifix in the S. porch, and an equally mutilated figure of the Virgin and Child outside it. Here the rly. is crossed by the G.W. branch from Bristol to Frome, the stations of the two companies being very close to one another.

[2 m. rt. is *Camerton*, near the Fosseway. Roman remains have been found in the neighbour-

hood. The *Ch.*, with a fine pinnacled tower, deserves notice. A side chapel contains a series of elaborate tombs of the Carews from 1640–1750. The situation of *Camerton Court* (Miss Jarrett) is very picturesque. *Woodborough House* (Rt. Hon. Lord de Blaquiere) is l. of the Fosse. Rt. of the road from Camerton to Radstock is *Round Hill*, on which is a barrow planted with trees, commanding a fine view towards Radstock. Here the Fosseway forms a steep, narrow lane of 150 yards in length.] Continuing up the valley, with the Fosseway to the l., we reach

12½ m. **Midsomer Norton** Stat., taking its name from lying pleasantly between two branches of the Somer rivulet. The *Ch.* was rebuilt 1830. Three of its bells were given by Charles II., a fact commemorated by his statue on the tower, and an inscription on one of the bells:—

"'T was Charles the Second, our gracious King,
Was the chief cause we bells do ring."

The line climbs rapidly the slope of Mendip to

14½ m. **Chilcompton** Stat., a very beautiful position. The pretty village, rt., lies deep down in a wooded glade, watered by the Somer, which forms several miniature cascades. The *Ch.* was rebuilt 1839, and a new chancel, vestry, and organ-chamber were added in 1897. The neighbourhood is very picturesque, and abounds in pretty walks.

[1 m. S.E. **Stratton-on-the Fosse** (the Street-town on the Fosseway), with a Norm. *Ch.* dedicated to St. Vigor. At **Downside** is a modern Benedictine priory and college, with a grand *Ch.* beautifully situated, and a large wayside crucifix.]

Still climbing, the line reaches

17 m. **Binegar**, the *Ch.* of which, rebuilt 1859, standing high and bleak on the summit of Mendip, has a good ancient tower with panelled battlements, and a niche containing the representation of the Trinity. The village was once celebrated for a large fair, transferred here from Wells on account of the plague in the 16th century, and removed back again 1837.

Soon after leaving Binegar the line reaches its highest elevation, more than 800 ft. above the sea, and just beyond this is

18½ m. **Maesbury** Stat., for Dinder (3 m.) and Croscombe (2 m.) (p. 381). Here on the rt. is

Maesbury Castle, a camp with double ramparts, containing 6 acres, on the line of the Roman road along the crest of the hill from the Bristol Channel to Old Sarum. On the summit *Beacon Hill*, 974 ft. above the sea, crowned with a clump of firs, lies to the l. This is the highest point of East Mendip, across which the Fosseway ran to Shepton, regardless of all natural obstacles.

Maesbury commands the finest prospect on the East Mendip, embracing the whole county of Somerset, with parts of the surrounding counties, the Bristol Channel and South Wales to the N., and to the S. the great central valley of Somerset, with Wells, Glastonbury, and its isolated hills, once islands, rising out of the marsh. The view

embraces also Alfred's Tower, the Blackdowns and Quantocks, Dunkery Beacon, and Exmoor.

The rly. descends from Maesbury to Evercreech with a very steep gradient. The tourist should notice the very remarkable views rt. on running down to

22 m. SHEPTON MALLET (Rte. 5).

25 m. *Evercreech, New*, Stat.

26¾ m. *Evercreech Junction* (Rte. 1).

ROUTE 7.

BRISTOL TO FROME BY BRISLINGTON, PENSFORD (STANTON DREW), CLUTTON, AND RADSTOCK.

(*North Somerset Branch of G. W. Rly.*)

RAIL.	PLACES.
	Bristol.
2¼ m.	Brislington.
6¾ m.	Pensford.
10 m.	Clutton.
11½ m.	Hallatrow Junction.
14 m.	Welton.
16 m.	Radstock.
19 m.	Wells.
24¾ m.	Frome.

2¼ m. *Brislington* Stat. The *Ch.* is Perp. (restored 1873).

3 m. **Whitchurch**, where the *Ch.*, restored 1864, has a central tower and N. transept, with a Norm. font and other remains. The line skirts the E. end of **Dundry Hill**, an outlying ridge of inferior oolite, nearly 4 m. long, and 765 ft. above the sea. **Maes Knoll**, on its E. point, is probably a natural mound, scooped out for interments. It is an immense tumulus, 390 ft. by 84 ft., and 60 ft. high at the most elevated point. It forms part of a very extensive British station, occupying the summit of Dundry Hill above *Whitchurch*, on the line of the Wansdyke, and corresponding with the entrenched height of *Stantonbury*, 5 m. to the E. of it. The oolite is quarried on the hill.

3½ m. W. **Dundry Church**. (St. Michael's) is celebrated for its fine Perp. tower, built by the Merchant Venturers of Bristol, temp. Edward IV., and probably intended as a landmark. The church was rebuilt, with the exception of the tower, in 1861. In the churchyard is a fine cross with a tall shaft. The head is modern. The summit of the tower commands, on a clear day, one of the most enchanting views in the west of England. Bristol and Bath, to the N. and E., are both in view; the hills about Calne and Devizes, above the former, bound the prospect. To the rt. of Bristol are seen the hills near Berkeley and Stroud, in Gloucestershire, and the view extends to Malvern Hills. From N. to W. the Severn, with the Welsh coast and mountains for nearly 40 m., and the Quantock Hills, near Bridgwater, appear to view. To the S. the eye ranges over a rich and beautifully varied country, embracing Stourhead, Knoll and Clay Hills, near Warminster, bounded by the high ground about Shaftesbury. The

Ch. of **Norton Malreward**, under Maes Knoll, rebuilt 1861, retains its tower and Norm. arch.

½ m. rt. *Belluton* (G. H. Wilkins, Esq.) occupies the site of a house which belonged to the father of Locke the philosopher. Approaching the next station, the church to the N. is that of Publow.

6¾ m. l. ✲ **Pensford** Stat., called by Leland "a market townlet," in his time busy with the manufacture of cloth. It lies most picturesquely in a deep valley, crossed by a lofty viaduct more than ¼ m. long and 100 ft. high, through which runs the river Chew, dividing Pensford from the adjacent village of *Publow*, with a good *Ch.*, the lofty tower of which was struck by lightning 1861. The *Ch.* of Pensford, rebuilt 1568, retains its square tower and curious font. The scenery here is very picturesque.

✲ ***Stanton Drew**, rt. (1 m. through the fields or 2 m. by road), in the fertile and well-wooded valley of the river Chew

—"Stanton Drew,
A mile from Pensford, another from Chew"—

like Littleton Drew, co. Wilts, derived its name from the family of Drew, owners of the manor temp. Edward III. Here once stood a vast rude stone monument of similar character to that at Abury. Considerable portions of it still remain. There may be traced the ruins of 3 circles, formed of the usual unhewn upright stones, which make up a group S.W. of the church, called the **Cove**. Besides these 3 main groups, there is another quite isolated from them, and consisting of 3 stones, which stand by themselves in an orchard. Of the circles the largest, S. of the river Chew, is 345 ft. by 378 ft., and its circumference, originally of 24 or more stones, is still marked by 14 stones, of which 3 only stand upright. On the E. side there are 5 stones of an avenue. The second circle, about 50 yards further N.E., formed a ring 96 ft. in diameter, and now consists of 8 stones, of which 4 are upright; and connected with them are 7 stones of an avenue. One or two smaller stones lie near, and may have belonged either to the circle or the avenue. These two circles, which should first be examined, are in a large field E. of the Church Farm. The third and smallest circle, 129 ft. in diameter, is now partly concealed by an orchard S. of the church. It originally consisted of 12 stones, of which 10 still remain, the largest being 9 ft. high and 22 ft. round. These stones are called by the country people the "Fiddlers" and the "Maids," and the whole "the Wedding." These designations are explained by, unless indeed they have given rise to, the tale told by Stukeley, to the effect that "a couple were married on Sunday, and the friends and guests were so profane as to dance upon the green together, and by a divine judgment were turned into stones." On the high-road ¼ m. to the N., and on the opposite side of the stream to those above mentioned, is a further flat stone, which is popularly known as **Hautville's Quoit**, under the idea that it

was thrown from the height of Maes Knoll by Sir John Hautville.

> A redoubtable member of a family who once dwelt here, and whose effigy, in Irish oak, was found many years ago in the church of Norton Hautville, and is now in that of Chew Magna. He lived in the reign of Henry III., and, according to the tradition, was of such amazing strength that on one occasion, for a wager, he carried no less than 3 men to the top of Norton Church tower—one under each arm, and the third between his teeth!

The ancient **parsonage-house** of Stanton Drew is a fine old building on the N. side of the village, near the bridge over the river, with the arms of Bp. Beckington over one of the windows. The **church,** badly restored 1848, has a good Dec. doorway, plain bowl-shaped font, and among other memorials the tomb of Sir Michael Foster, one of the judges of the Queen's Bench (d. 1763). A farmhouse, E. of the church, preserves some traces of mediæval architecture.

* **Chew Magna,** 1 m. W. of Stanton Drew, is a very pretty village, once a market town. It has a fine **church,** built or thoroughly repaired by Bp. Beckington, whose arms are to be seen in several places, with a lofty tower, well restored, containing several interesting monuments of families connected with the manor, among them a gigantic effigy of Sir John St. Loe, measuring 7 ft. 4 in. in length and 2 ft. 4 in. across the breast, and an elaborate monument to Edward Baber and his wife, 1578. On the sill of a window is a figure, of the 13th century, carved out of solid oak, of Sir John Hautville, originally in Norton Hautville Church, near Chew. It has been repainted in good mediæval taste. S. of the church is a mutilated cross on a lofty stepped basement.

Near the church is the old **court-house,** bearing the arms of the St. Loes, and formerly the place where the courts leet and baron of the manor were held. It is now used as a parochial school. The **Manor House** (W. Adlam, Esq., D.L., J.P.) is also an ancient house, with a gateway and 2 small octagon towers of unusual character. **Chew Court** (A. B. Curtis, Esq.) has a Tudor gateway with a room over it which possesses a good timber roof.

1 m. S. of Chew Magna is **Chew Stoke.** The *Ch.* has a pretty tower with ancient figures in niches on its buttresses. The parsonage, of the 15th century, has numerous heraldic devices in panels over the entrance and between the windows. The date 1529 may be seen.

[**Sutton Court** (Sir Edward Strachey, Bart., D.L., J.P.), partly built by the famous "Bess of Hardwicke," who took as her third husband Sir J. St. Loe. Leland, the antiquary, spent some days here in 1534, when he was compiling his "Itinerary of Somerset." Here Bp. Hooper found a temporary asylum, and John Locke frequently resided here with his friend Mr. Strachey. The earliest part of the Court is

the tower, with a turret staircase, built on the plan of the Peel towers, with 3 rooms one over the other. The house was added to the tower by one of the St. Loes. It has been well restored by its present owner.]

7 m. l. *Houndstreet Park* (F. W. Leybourne-Popham, Esq., also of Littlecote, Wiltshire).

10 m. rt. **Clutton** Stat., with a fine spacious *Ch.*, rebuilt 1865. The tower was rebuilt in 1728. The font is ancient. A window in the N. aisle contains the figures of SS. Basil and Dominic, those being the saints on whose days a former vicar named Bourdier, whose portrait is in the upper light of the same window, was born and died.

11½ m. **Hallatrow** Junction, a hamlet in the valley, belonging to the parish of *High Littleton*, 1 m. E. A short branch line runs from here to Camerton.

12 m. rt. **Farrington Gournay** (or Gurney), lying pleasantly in a valley. Its Norm. *Ch.* was rebuilt 1844. The *Manor House* (Mrs. Mogg) is an ancient building; l. lie the coal-fields of Camerton and Radstock.

14 m. **Welton** Stat., ½ m. N. of *Midsomer Norton* (Rte. 6).

16 m. **Radstock** Stat. (Rte. 6). (The line crosses the Somerset and Dorset line, which has a stat. of its own close to that of the G.W. Rly.)

The line continues up the valley to

17¾ m. rt. **Kilmersdon,** with a light and elegant Perp. *Ch.*, having a lofty and well-proportioned tower. In the parish 1 m. l. is **Ammerdown Park** (Lord Hylton, D.L.), a modern mansion, designed by James Wyatt, on an elevated site, surrounded by a wall 8 ft. high, in a park 4 m. in circumference. In the park, 800 ft. above the sea, is a column, 150 ft. high, with a central staircase; from the summit a splendid view is obtained. Inscriptions on the plinth, in Latin, French, and English, explain that it was erected in memory of Colonel T. S. Jolliffe. It is open to the public on Mondays and Thursdays.

1 m. S.W. of Kilmersdon is **Babington,** with a modern *Ch.* *Babington House* is the residence of Captain Wyndham Knatchbull.

19 m. rt. **Mells** Stat. The village, a most attractive spot (Rte. 4), whence a delightful walk wends down the narrow valley under *Wadbury Camp*, by *Elm* and *Vallis*.

24¾ m. **Frome** (Rte. 4).

ROUTE 8.

BRISTOL TO YEOVIL BY WELLS, SOMERTON, AND ILCHESTER.

ROAD.	PLACES.
	Bristol.
4 m.	Whitchurch.
6½ m.	Pensford.
9¾ m.	Clutton.
10¼ m.	Temple Cloud.
15 m.	Chewton Mendip.
20¼ m.	Wells.
26¼ m.	Glastonbury.
27¾ m.	Street.
33¾ m.	Somerton.
38¼ m.	Ilchester.
43¼ m.	Yeovil.

As far as Farrington Gournay this route follows nearly the same course as the rly. from Bristol to Frome (Rte. 7), to which the tourist is referred.

BRISTOL.
4 m. *Whitchurch.*
6½ m. *Pensford.*
9¾ m. *Clutton.*
10¼ m. *Temple Cloud.*

15 m. **Chewton Mendip,** among the combes and projecting spurs of the Mendips. It gives the title of Viscount to the family of Waldegrave. The walls of the *Ch.* are Norm., and it has a doorway and some internal remains in that style. The chancel has an E.E. arcade, separating it from the S. aisle, in which is an altar-tomb to Sir Henry Fitzroger and his lady, 1388. Many of the carved oak benches remain. There is a good example of the frid-stool, or seat of refuge, on the N. side of the sacrarium. This was a seat, according to Parker's "Glossary," generally of stone, placed near the altar in some churches, the last and most sacred refuge for those who claimed the privilege of sanctuary within them. Examples are very rare, only two others being known, viz., at Hexham and Beverley. There is a good lectern of the same date as the Bible which lies on it, 1611, and a portrait memorial of the late Frances, Countess of Waldegrave. The tower, one of the finest examples of the Taunton type, has been built on to the earlier nave. "It is one of the best towers we have, and a most stately thing."—*E. A. F.* The church has been well restored. In the churchyard, opposite the N. porch, is a very fine canopied cross, the arms of which are gone, but the remains of the figures of the Crucifixion may be clearly seen.

Chewton Priory is the seat of Lord Carlingford, P.C., and *Chewton House* that of Major the Hon. E. J. Boyle, J.P., D.L.

[5½ m. rt. lies the village of **Compton Martin,** the road to which, under the Mendips, among the picturesque slopes and spurs of the hills, is full of beauty. It passes the villages of **East** and **West Harptree.** The former is seated in a rich and fertile valley. Black oxide of manganese has been dug here in large quantities. The soil abounds in masses of breccia, or puddingstone, formed of siliceous pebbles firmly cemented together. **East Harptree Church** is poor, but its walls are Norm., and it has a S. door of the same style. In the

S. porch is an altar-tomb, with an effigy in armour of Sir J. Newton (d. 1568), with figures of his 8 sons and 12 daughters. **Richmont Castle,** ½ m. S.W. of the church, in **Harptree Combe**, a deep gorge in the side of the hills, was one of the strongholds gained for Stephen by his mercenaries from Flanders and Brittany in that transient period of success before his cause was finally ruined by his wanton alienation of the Church. Harptree Combe is a deep and narrow ravine, with cliff-like sides running back from its mouth for ¼ m. It then forks, but not widely, leaving a narrow neck of land with a rocky face. As neither branch of the ravine loses its steep and rocky character, the triangle of land at the fork is left protected on all sides but one by almost perpendicular walls—a position needing only fortification on one side to render it practically impregnable. On this neck of land stood the castle. Nothing now remains but a part of one wall of the keep and the traces of some fish-ponds in the course of the stream that runs through the combe below. Standing by the old wall, with the steep brushwood-covered sides falling away at your feet, it is not difficult, as you look over the wide sweep of thickly wooded valley and hill, to realize how much the neighbouring country must have been at the mercy of the lord of the castle; and Richmont Castle was held by those mercenaries of Stephen whose deeds are recorded in that terrible and bitter outcry from wrong and misery almost unspeakable which closes the work of the Saxon chronicler. The old castle has long been in ruins. Leland mentions that in his day it was being used as a quarry to build a neighbouring manor-house, *Eastwood*, now the seat of W. H. B. Hope, Esq., J.P. *Harptree Court* (W. W. Kettlewell, Esq., J.P.) is a classical building of the Adams school, situated in a richly wooded and watered park.

W. of East Harptree is a cavern called the **Lamb's Lair**, in the mountain limestone. It has a perpendicular shaft nearly 70 fathoms deep, and is hung with many stalactites. Other very large caverns at West Harptree, one extending 600 ft. in length, were rediscovered in 1880. The chief chamber lined with stalactites is reputed to be the finest cave in the Mendips.

West Harptree was one of the manors belonging to Sir Thomas Gournay, one of the barons accessory to the murder of Edward II. His estates were confiscated by Edward III., and now form part of the Duchy of Cornwall. The 7 yew-trees in the churchyard, of great age and size, are cut into conical shapes. The *Ch.* was almost rebuilt in 1864–5 by Mr. Giles. The old tower, crowned with a lofty spire, still remains, as well as the E. window. There is a good piscina, and a circular font. Opposite the church, **Gournay Manor** is a spacious and handsome house, almost unaltered, of the time of James I. **Tilly Manor,** standing next the church, bears the date 1659. The uppermost of its 3 stories has been removed. Both of these are now used as farmhouses.

Compton Martin. (See p. 318

for an account of the interesting church.)

In the direction of West Harptree a wooded hollow in the hillside, called ***Haydon's Gully,** derives its name, according to the tradition, from a Colonel Haydon, one of Monmouth's adherents, who fled for refuge to this neighbourhood, and lay concealed during the night at his brother's house; but every morning he rode forth to this sequestered spot, and, backing his horse into a hole in the bank, spent the day in tolerable comfort.]

The road here begins to climb the steep slope of the Mendip range, passing rt. **Chewton Priory,** the residence of the late Countess of Waldegrave, now of Lord Carlingford.

17 m. rt. **Green Ore Farm,** on which there is another of the Mendip caverns. At this point our route crosses at right angles the Roman road from Uphill, on the Bristol Channel, to Old Sarum.

17¾ m. rt. the summit of **Pen Hill,** 1000 ft. above the sea. The descent to Wells commands a view of uncommon beauty, with the towers of the cathedral rising from the vale.

20¼ m. WELLS (Rte. 1). Wells to Glastonbury across the levels and peat bogs (Rte. 1).

26¼ m. **Glastonbury** (Rte. 1).

27¾ m. **Street.** From this village the road on the rt. runs towards **Polden Hill,** a ridge of lias far projecting into the marshes of Sedgemoor. The village of *Edington*, on the N. of the ridge, immediately below its greatest elevation, is identified by Bp. Clifford with the Æthandune of Asser, the scene of Alfred's famous victory over Guthrum and his Danes, "which changed the history of England." Most antiquaries, however, have assigned Edington in Wilts as the scene of this battle. The Isle of Athelney lies immediately below on the S. side of the ridge, and Aller closely adjacent. At the summit the road passes

29¾ m. **Marshal's Elm,** from which it descends on the other side; l. is the escarpment of the high country of which Polden is an offshoot. It is beautifully wooded. On Windmill Hill (279 ft.) stands **Sir Samuel Hood's monument,** on the estate of *Butleigh Wootton*, a commanding point l.

31¼ m. rt. **Dundon Beacon,** an entrenched height 300 ft. above the sea, and at its foot the pretty and picturesque village of **Dundon** and its manor house. The name of the parish is Compton Dundon, and it consists of 3 villages, Compton, Dundon, and Littleton, in the second of which is the *Ch.*, which has a Perp. nave and tower and Dec. chancel with a fine E. window, piscina, and sedilia, as well as the basement of a stone rood-screen. The road now runs on the flank of **Copley** and **Hurcot Hill,** l., both thickly clothed with woods. Further to the l. is **Kingweston** (a corruption of Kenwardston), where is the modern house of A. Dickinson, Esq., close to which is the modern *Ch.*, rebuilt by the late Mr. F. H. Dickinson (Giles, *Arch.*), with a fine lofty spire

rising from an octagonal lantern modelled after Lostwithiel. The Norm. door, piscina, and font are relics of the former church. The rebels of Devonshire were signally defeated here by Sir Hugh Powlet, 1549. Rt. is the river *Cary*, and beyond it *Bradleigh Hill*. Crossing the river, we ascend to

33¾ m. ✻ **Somerton** (Pop. 1962), a small unfrequented town in a charming country of wild hill and fruitful dale. It was anciently, however, as its name indicates, the capital of the Sumersætas, from whom Somersetshire received its designation, in which Ina and other West Saxon kings resided. In 733 it was captured by Ethelbald, King of Mercia. The tradition that King John of France was imprisoned at the castle, with the site of which the White Hart is locally associated, has arisen from a confusion with Somerton Castle, near Lincoln. The chief local industry is a shirt and collar factory, which employs 150 hands. The town stands on a hill, but you ascend from it still higher on the road to Langport. Some of the houses are ancient, with good projecting bow windows. The most striking object in the principal street is the sign of the head inn, a red lion of ferocious aspect mounted on a pillar. Turning the corner of this street, we find the

Market cross, dated A.D. 1673, standing on the old stone basement, with open arcade and central column supporting a pyramidal roof. The town hall and 2 old houses adjoining form with it a group characteristic of an old English town.

The *Ch.* (restored 1890) is a fine building, with wide nave and aisles, a small N. transept, and an octagonal tower forming a quasi-transept on the S. side, which is square E.E. below and octagonal Perp. above. The church is chiefly Dec., but the chancel very late Perp. The roof of the nave, said (but without any sufficient evidence) to have been brought from Muchelney Abbey, is remarkably fine, having a large amount of rich panelling, varied figures, and foliage. The pulpit has the date 1615, and the handsome communion table, which is finely carved, painted, and gilt, bears the date 1626. Some of the prisoners after the battle of Sedgemoor were confined in this church, and amused themselves with playing at ball. When the roof was repaired, a large number of balls were found, of which specimens are preserved at the Taunton Museum. The reredos is supposed to have once served as a chancel screen, it being carved on both sides.

The best view of the town is from *Kingsdon Hill*, 1 m. S., the best view of the country from the top of *Somerton Hill*, 1½ m. towards Langport. The prospect embraces the entire breadth of Somersetshire, from Alfred's Tower, in Wiltshire, to the Wellington Monument, on the border of Devonshire. A person acquainted with the county may recognize from this point the Montacute Hills; Bubb Down, at Melbury; Rana Hill, near Chard; the Blackdowns; the Brendons; the Quantocks; and the Mendips.

[It is a pretty walk to **Hurcot**

On leaving Ilchester, we traverse the flat vale of the Yeo, a low line of hills being seen on all sides, and in the direction of Yeovil the wooded height of *St. Michael's* at Montacute.

Chilthorne Domer *Church*, rt., 3 m. N. of Yeovil, is Dec., and contains a recumbent effigy of a knight in chain-mail, probably commemorating Sir William Dummer, temp. Edward I., father of Sir John, whose effigy is the chief attraction in the church of Pendomer (Rte. 9).

43¼ m. *Yeovil* (Rte. 4).

ROUTE 9.

YEOVIL TO AXMINSTER, BY CREWKERNE (FORD ABBEY).

(*L. and S. W. Rly.*)

RAIL.	PLACES.
	Waterloo.
	Yeovil.
124¾ m.	Sutton Bingham.
131½ m.	Crewkerne.
138 m.	Chard Junction.

Leaving the Yeovil Stat., the line passes close to the remains of the old manor house of Clifton Maybank l., and reaches

124¾ m. (from Waterloo Stat.) **Sutton Bingham** Stat. 1 m. rt. are **East** and **West Coker,** where is *Coker Court* (Colonel J. Mount Batten, J.P.) and *North Coker House* (G. Troyte-Chafyn-Grove, Esq., D.L., J.P.). The line runs under the richly wooded heights l. of **Abbot's Hill** and **Birt Hill,** elevations of the lower oolite, and enters on the broad green valley of the Parrett. At 126½ m. the church and manor-house of **Pendomer** are very conspicuous objects rt., perched on the summit of the peculiarly shaped hill from which the parish derives the former part of its name, the latter half being given by the family who for many generations possessed the manor. The *Ch.* is Perp., but it contains, under a Dec. arched recess in the N. wall, an earlier effigy of a knight in a complete suit of ring-mail, probably commemorating Sir John Dummer, temp. Edward I. and II. The cornice above the monument is supported by small figures, and bears a row of prickets for lights. [With this should be compared the earlier and very similar effigy at Chilthorne Domer (Rte. 8)]. On the l. are seen the marked summits of **Ashlands** and **Crook Hill.**

The line passes 130 m. **North Perrott** rt., with its cruciform Perp. church, and l. **South Perrott** (in Dorsetshire). The *Ch.* is Perp., with a central tower supported on Norm. piers. At the manor house, now pulled down, Charles I. lodged, Sept. 30th, 1644, on his march from the west.

1¾ m. S.E., on the abrupt slope of the down, is **Cheddington.** The *Ch.* was rebuilt in 1841. Both the Parrett and the Axe have their sources in this parish, the former in Cheddington copse, 1 m. S., on the estate of W. Trevelyan Cox, Esq.

On the other side of the down, 2½ m. rt., is **Corscombe,** a large

parish in Dorsetshire, given by Cuthred, King of the West Saxons, to the abbey of Sherborne, of which the tithe-barn still remains. The *Ch.* has a pinnacled tower, and a N. porch with 3 canopied niches over the inner doorway. Thomas Hollis, F.S.A., a once famous freethinker, virtuoso, patriot, and man of letters, now forgotten, owned the chief estate here, where he died suddenly, 1774. He was a liberal benefactor to foreign libraries, especially Berne, Zurich, and Harvard College, New England. Geneva, Venice, Leyden, Sweden, Russia, etc., shared his liberality.

131½ m., at the village of **Misterton,** is the station for the town, 1 m. distant, of

* **CREWKERNE** including West Crewkerne (Pop. 4946), a market town of some size, in the valley of the Parrett, surrounded by a wide amphitheatre of hills. It has a manufacture of sail-cloth, webbing, and girths. Several houses, as the George, are constructed of Hamhill stone.

The *Ch.*, dedicated to St. Bartholomew, is one of the 2 finest cruciform churches in the county, the other being at Ilminster. It is a beautiful specimen of the Perp. of the 15th century, of remarkable richness, the windows of the N. transept being especially worthy of notice. The harmonious simplicity of the W. front, with its octagonal turrets, the W. door and its ornamentation, deserve particular attention. There was a church here at the time of the Conquest, which was given by the Conqueror to Caen Abbey, but all traces of this Saxon church and its Norm. successor have disappeared. In 1402 a certain monk of Ford, one Robert Chard, obtained permission to immure himself as an anchorite in a "solitary house" beneath it.

The *Free Grammar School*, on the N. side of the church, was founded 1499 by John de Combe, a native of Crewkerne, and for many years Treasurer of Exeter Cathedral, and reconstituted by Queen Elizabeth in 1560. New buildings were erected on the outskirts of the town in 1880. It is one of the most ancient schools in England. Mr. Justice Best, afterwards Lord Wynford, was educated here.

The father of *Tom Paine*, author of "The Rights of Man," was a native of Crewkerne. He was a stay-maker, and carried on business at Thetford, in Norfolk, where his son was born.

PLACES NEAR CREWKERNE.

(a) **Hinton St. George,** seat of Earl Poulett, is 3 m. N.W. It is occasionally shown. Fuller says it may be called "a charitable curiosity, if true what is traditioned—that about the reign of King Henry VII. the owner built it in a dear year, on purpose to employ more people thereupon." The earliest portion is the work of the first Sir Amyas Poulett (d. 1537). The garden front is attributed to Inigo Jones. The gateway, erected by the same architect at Clifton Maybank, was purchased by Lord Poulett for 120 guineas, and re-erected in Hinton Park. The suites of apartments known as

Queen Anne's rooms were erected by John, first Earl Poulett, in expectation of a visit prevented by the Queen's death. The family pictures were given, it is said, to the great Lord Clarendon, and now form part of the collections at the Grove in Hertfordshire and Bothwell Castle in Scotland.

Hinton received a visit in 1669 from Cosmo III., Grand Duke of Tuscany, who commended its gardens and terraces as very different from the common style. The unfortunate Duke of Monmouth appears to have stayed here some time, immediately before the battle of Sedgemoor. During his visit a woman, who was a martyr to the "king's evil," made a rush at the Duke of Monmouth and touched his hand, after which, in the course of 2 days, her wounds were healed. A certificate to this effect was circulated in London, signed by the minister of Crewkerne and several other persons. The Poulett monuments are in the neighbouring *Ch.*, including those of the first Sir Amyas in complete armour (d. 1537), by whom Wolsey was put in the stocks (p. 410), knighted for his gallantry on the battle-field of Newark-on-Trent, 1487; his grandson, Sir Amyas (d. 1588), the gaoler of Mary Queen of Scots, stigmatized as a "dainty and precise fellow, who would promise much, but perform nothing," by Queen Elizabeth, when he rejected, with the indignation of an honest man, the infamous suggestion of her secretaries, Walsingham and Davison, that he should find some means to shorten the life of his prisoner.

Sir Amyas was buried in the church of St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, Westminster, on the rebuilding of which his monument was removed to Hinton *Ch.* by the first Earl Poulett in 1728. One of its many inscriptions bearing the initials "E. R." is said to have been written by Elizabeth herself. Another is in French, one of the latest instances of its employment. His son, Sir Anthony, and his wife, Lady Catherine Poulett, and 10 children are represented under a canopy between the N. aisle and the nave, the first and second Lords Poulett, and other members of the family.

In the village is a fine cross of the same type as those of Bishop's Lydeard and Crowcombe. The shaft, now surmounted with a Doric capital and ball, with the figure of St. John the Baptist on its E. face, stands on a lofty flight of 3 deeply moulded steps

(b) **Haselbury Plucknett**, 2½ m. N.E., was rendered famous in the 12th century by the residence of the sainted hermit Wulfric.

"where, vexed by fevers and macerations, the gaunt solitary waged his battle against the enemy of souls. Originally a clerical sportsman, he had all at once flung aside his hounds and his vicarage, and, without waiting for episcopal sanction or priestly benediction, had immured himself in his jealously closed cell. He was soon known as England's one miracle-worker and prophet. Wulfric hailed Stephen as king as he rode past his hermitage, in his uncle's lifetime, replying to his remonstrances, 'It is no error it—is you, Stephen, that I mean—for the Lord hath delivered the realm into your hand—Protect the Church; defend the poor.'"—*J. R. Green.*

He died 1154. His tomb in

the N. chapel of the *Ch.* was visited by pilgrims for ages.

(c) **The Chinnocks** and **Chiselborough.** Higher up the valley of the Parrett, 3 m. N.E. of Crewkerne Stat., is **West Chinnock**, where there is a large manufactory of sail-cloth. Along the hill further E. are the villages of **Middle** and **East Chinnock**, all with churches of some interest. At **Chiselborough**, 1 m. N.W., many of the inhabitants were formerly affected by goître and cretinism, maladies attributed to a defective ventilation at a mild temperature, the village being situated in a narrow valley closed on 3 sides by lofty hills, but better sanitary conditions have abolished these diseases.

The *Ch.* is E.E., the nave rebuilt 1842; one of the bells bears a very early inscription:—

"Carmine lætatur Paulus campana vocatur."

"The whole lettering is singularly beautiful, being all in ornamented capitals and crowned."—*Ellacombe.* On the waist of this bell is inscribed:—

"Stephe(n): Norton: of: Ke(n)t:
Me: made: i(n): God: Ente(n)t."

(d) **Misterton**, 3 m. S., was the birthplace of Sir Alexander Hood. The *Ch.* is modern.

(e) **Road from Crewkerne to Chard.** The road from Crewkerne to Chard affords a good view of Crewkerne, together with its background, **Pendomer Down**, and the conical knoll of **Crook Hill**.

A steep ascent leads to the height known as **St. Rayn Hill**, a narrow ridge, so named from St. Reyn, or Regina, to whom there was once a chapel on the hill. The road runs along the summit of this ridge to within 2 m. of Chard. Rt. are the fir plantations of Hinton St. George.

1 m. further brings us to the point from which is obtained a bird's-eye view over Somerset and Dorset, each bounded by the sea: in the foreground a clump of beech trees, and a sandy road descending the hill, complete the picture.

Further still is *Windwhistle Inn*, the favourite point of view, at the highest point (733 ft.). It is a solitary house of entertainment, 4 m. on this road, fully exposed, as its name imports, to the rushing winds. On each side the road is wooded, and on the rt. the trees in summer shut out the view, but when bare of leaves the English Channel is seen, together with the cliffs of Beer Head. On the l. stretch long undulating lines of hills, innumerable vales and glistening streams, the chequered surface of the fair county of Somerset, edged on the far horizon by the purple sea. A mile nearer Crewkerne the view is open on both sides.

Proceeding on our route, the line runs through a deep cutting, and, passing under **Shavelane Hill**, l., enters on the rich, well-watered meadows of the Axe, with the heights of **St. Rayn Hill** and **Windwhistle** rt. At 137 m. rt. is

Winsham, pleasantly situated on the Axe river. The *Ch.* is an interesting building with a central

tower, but sadly spoilt by the tasteless patchings and unskilful repairs of modern times. It has the remains of a handsome wood screen, and old oak seats, carved with the linen pattern. There is a curious panel painting of the Crucifixion, probably of the 14th century. There is an ancient market cross opposite the George Inn. *Leigh House* (Colonel H. C. Henley, J.P.).

[2 m. N. is **Cricket House**, formerly the seat of Lord Bridport. Through the trees S.E. are seen the twin hills of Lewesdon and Pillesdon. The mansion is situated far below the road, in a romantic dell, which opens into the valley of the Axe. It was rebuilt about 60 years ago. Adjoining it is the little *Ch.* of **Cricket St. Thomas,** in which the first Lord Bridport was buried. There is a monument to his memory, and another to the Rev. William, Earl Nelson, Duke of Bronte, father of the Dowager Lady Bridport. *Cricket* was the ancient seat of the Prestons, to which belonged the gallant sea-captain Sir Amyas Preston, who seized the Admiral of the Galeasses of the Spanish Armada, and in 1595 made a successful foray in the West Indies, "entering Jamaica," says Fuller, "with little loss, some profit, and more honour."]

138 m. l., close to the line, but difficult to be seen, owing to the trees, is the group of old grey stone buildings of **Ford Abbey**, $1\frac{1}{4}$ m. of Chard Junction, 4 m. from the town of Chard, and situated in Dorsetshire.

* **FORD ABBEY** (*Knap Inn*) (W. H. Evans, Esq., D.L., J.P.), a very beautiful monastic building, mixed with much heterogeneous modern work. It is seated in its park, in a retired valley on the river Axe, which there forms the boundary of Dorset and Somerset.

It was built in the reign of Stephen (1141) for a community of Cistercian monks from Waverley, in Surrey, which had been first established in 1136 at Brightley, near Okehampton, Devon, by Richard de Brioniis, a descendant of the dukes of Normandy. The monks resided 5 years at Brightley, but, driven out "by reason of great want and barrenness," they determined to return to Waverley. On their journey they passed Thorncombe, the manor of the sister of the founder, Adeliza, Viscountess of Devon, who, touched by a feeling of wounded honour at the threatened failure of her brother's foundation, bestowed on them Ford in exchange for Brightley. In the reign of Henry II., by the marriage of the heiress of this family, the abbey passed to the Courtenays, who continued its patrons for many generations. Its last abbot was Thomas Chard, Bishop of Solburia *in partibus*, and coadjutor of the see of Exeter, and he restored and beautified it, and reconstructed the cloister and refectory, which remain perfect to this day. At the dissolution it was granted to Richard Pollard, who was subsequently knighted, and from his family it passed in succession through those of Poulett, Roswell, Prideaux, and Gwyn. It escaped destruction in the Rebellion, as the property of the Attorney-General of the Commonwealth, Edmund Prideaux, who afterwards employed Inigo Jones to make extensive alterations, which were, however, not completed at the death of the architect in 1654. In 1680 the son

of the Attorney-General received a visit from the Duke of Monmouth, who was making a pleasure tour through the western counties. He had afterwards, however, to regret the honour, for he was arrested as accessory to Monmouth's rebellion, and kept a prisoner in the Tower until he had paid a ransom of £15,000 to Judge Jeffreys. His heiress carried the property to the Gwyns of Glamorganshire. In the reign of Queen Anne, Francis Gwyn was the proprietor of Ford. He was Secretary-at-War, and was presented by the Queen with the tapestry which ornaments the saloon. In 1815 one of his descendants let the abbey for a term of 3 years to *Jeremy Bentham*, who here wrote some of his works, and here his favourite disciple, James Mill, the father of John Stuart Mill, with his whole family, used to spend 9 or 10 months at a stretch. In 1847, after the death of John Fraunceis Gwyn, it was in the hands of trustees to sell, and after it had been stripped of its pictures and some of its tapestry it became the property of G. F. W. Miles, Esq., who sold it to the family of the present owner, Herbert Evans, Esq.

The approach to the abbey is by a broad straight road, which leads to the eastern, ivy-covered side, but affords no view of the S. or principal front. This front faces the lawn and terrace, and presents a long range of sculptured wall, richly coloured by mosses and lichens. Standing facing this front we have before us the existing **cloister**, which was the N. walk of the original quadrangle, 82 ft. long, of which the other 3 sides have perished. In a line with the cloister further W., to our l., are the **entrance tower** and abbot's lodgings, beyond which are the apartments added by Inigo Jones. Behind us, on the S. of the square, stood the church, of which there are no remains. To our rt. on the E. side is the **chapter-house**, now the *chapel*, and further to the N. there is a groined basement, with a very perfect **dormitory** above, now divided into chambers. Approached by a central door from the N. side of the cloister are the **refectory** and **kitchen**. The cloister, tower, and refectory remain as they were built by Thomas Chard, the last abbot, and bear his initials, with the inscription "Anno Dni Millesimo quingesimo vigesimo octavo [1528]. A Dno est factum Thoma Chard. Abb.," and the arms of Courtenay, Poulett, and Prideaux. The square windows in the W. wing are part of the alterations by Inigo Jones. The **chapel**, originally the **chapter-house**, is the oldest portion, and probably coeval with the foundation of the abbey, in the reign of Stephen. It is a good example of Trans., with a vaulted roof hung with modern pendants, a finely carved screen and pulpit, and obtusely pointed arches set with zigzag mouldings. The E. window is Tudor, and was probably the work of Thomas Chard. The **cloister** still retains all the beauty of its vaulting and delicate tracery, but is a little injured in effect by the square-headed doors added by Inigo Jones. It is 82 ft. in length, and is now used as a conservatory. The hall or **refectory**, also built by Chard, is 28 ft. in height and 55 ft. in length, lighted by 4 large Tudor windows. It has been

carefully restored by the present owner. Its carved ceiling is gilded and painted, and its walls are partly wainscoted. W. of it are the **state apartments**, designed by Inigo Jones. The most remarkable of these are the **dining-room** and **drawing-room**, both with elaborate and beautiful ceilings, and formerly furnished in the old English fashion with high-backed, tapestried chairs, etc. Above them are several bedrooms, one called **Queen Anne's Room**, because prepared for that sovereign by Francis Gwyn, when Secretary-at-War. The **grand staircase**, designed by Inigo Jones, but completed after his death, in 1658, is much admired, particularly the balustrade. It leads to the **saloon**, also by Inigo Jones, a noble room, 50 ft. in length and 28 ft. in height, and for more than 130 years hung with the famous **Raphael tapestries** presented to Francis Gwyn by Queen Anne. They were worked at Mortlake, as proved by the fact that they have the Mortlake badge in their border. In the park are a lake well stored with fish, and several old trees, particularly a cedar of Lebanon of remarkable size.

Among the abbots of Ford were Baldwin, Archbishop of Canterbury, 1185-1189; the learned and devout Roger the Cistercian, c. 1180; and John of Devon, chaplain and confessor to King John (d. 1210), who, according to Fuller, "travelled in foreign parts, not, as too many, to weed, but gather the flowers, returning stored with good manners, and stocked with good learning, and endeavoured that all his convent should be like him. Ford Abbey, in his time, had more learning than 9 convents of the same bigness."

ROUTE 10.

CHARD JUNCTION STATION TO TAUNTON BY CHARD AND ILMINSTER.

RAIL.	PLACES.
	Chard Junction.
3 m.	Chard.
7 m.	Ilminster.
12 m.	Hatch Beauchamp.
16 m.	Taunton.

The rly. ascends the valley of a little affluent of the Axe from Chard Junction Stat. to

3 m. ✲ **CHARD** Stat. (beyond this is a second stat. called Chard Joint Stat.) (Pop. 4315), a rather handsome town, principally of one broad street, running up a hill from E. to W. It is situated within a mile of the border of Devonshire, on a watershed, from which the streams flow in opposite directions to the Bristol and English Channels. It has a manufacture of lace and an excellent market, well known for potatoes, which are principally brought from the neighbourhood of Crewkerne.

Charles I. was twice at Chard in 1644: first, on his march westwards, July 24, when he lodged at the house of Mr. Bancroft, a London merchant; the second time, on his return, broken-spirited, and well-nigh hopeless. He arrived Sept. 23rd with 10,000 horse and foot, and 17 pieces of artillery, and was detained a whole week by the

failure of his Somerset commissioners to send on their promised contributions of money and clothing. He left on the 30th, dined at Lord Poulett's at Hinton St. George, where he was joined by Prince Rupert and Lord Digby from Bridgwater. He passed the night at the Manor House, South Perrott, and went on next day to Sherborne. After the fall of Exeter in 1646, Sir Thomas Fairfax marched into Somersetshire, and on April 18th encamped with his army round Chard, whence he despatched Colonel Lunsford's regiment to strengthen Blake's besieging force at Dunster. In 1685 Monmouth marched through Chard, and a little later in the year the inhabitants had to witness the execution of 12 unfortunate victims to the bloodthirsty Jeffreys; according to the tradition, they were hanged on an oak recently standing near the lower end of the town, and called the *Hangcross Tree*.

The things to be noticed in Chard are the *Church*, the *lace factories*, the *Grammar School*, and some other old houses, probably of the 16th century, one, for instance, above the George, and another, the *Chough Inn*, beyond the intersection of the 4 streets. That now called "Waterloo House" contains some good embossed ceilings and other plaster enrichments, principally of scriptural subjects.

The *Ch.*, in the street towards Axminster, is a long, low cruciform building of the Perp. of the 15th century, quasi-transepts being formed by lofty porches. The E. window is fine. It contains a strange old monument to the memory of William Brewer, a physician of Chard, and his wife (d. 1614), who are represented in black dresses and ruffs, kneeling face to face at an altar, the one with his 6 sons, the other with her 6 daughters, in pairs, size after size, all in similar dresses and attitudes. The church was restored in 1828. The lace factories employ about 1000 hands. The *Grammar School* is a quaint old building, bearing the date 1538 on a leaden pipe, but chiefly of 17th-century date. Thomas Wakley, once M.P. for Finsbury and Coroner for Middlesex, but better known as the founder of the "Lancet," was educated here.

Penruddock and his insurgents met with a severe defeat at Chard.

Snowdon, one of the summits on the highland from the Blackdowns, rises immediately above Chard, and on a clear day will give the traveller fine prospects over Devonshire and Somerset. 1½ m. will bring him to the highest point (704 ft.). ¾ m. further is **Weston**, an interesting 16th-century house, formerly the home of the Bonner family. It possesses two excellent plaster ceilings. **White Staunton** (about 1 m. N.W. of this) is a place worth visiting. The *Ch.*, mainly Perp., has a good screen, also two chancel chapels, that on the S. having belonged to the Guild of St. Mary. It is separated from the chancel by a stone screen. There is a brass in it to Margaret Brett. There are some good tiles. The *Manor House* is partly 15th-century, and possesses a fine roof. There is a good Jacobean fireplace and stamped plaster frieze in the library. The *Roman Villa* is close to the manor house. Its foundations can be clearly traced, and near it is

an ancient spring known as the well of St. Agnes.

Windwhistle Inn, on the narrow ridge of Rana Hill, 4 m. E., also commands a wide and fascinating view (Rte. 9).

At **Wadeford**, 2 m., and **Dinnington**, tessellated pavements, hypocausts, stuccoed walls, and other traces of Roman habitation have been discovered.

7 m. ✲ **ILMINSTER** Stat. (Pop. 3135), a town seated on the river Ile, which flows to the N.E. through a low flat country. To the N.W. is the highland of *Neroche Forest*, and its camp, *Neroche Castle*, 6 m. distant. Ilminster has flax and tow works, a lace manufactory, and rope and collar factories. It is an ancient place, its Saturday market dating from Saxon times.

The *Ch.*, which formerly belonged to the abbey of Muchelney, is one of the 2 finest cruciform churches in this county, the other being at Crewkerne. It has a rich central tower, having crocketed pinnacles and panelling, but of a different class from Huish Episcopi, North Petherton, etc.—"one of the very noblest of parochial towers, a Perp. version of the central tower of Wells."—*E. A. F.* It has a good stone groined roof, open to the interior. The tower, transepts, and porch were built by Sir William Wadham, temp. Henry VII. The whole church is Perp., but the nave has been rebuilt, not quite successfully, but as well as could be expected for 1824. The N. transept is much enriched. The chancel is rather plainer, and there is an eastern vestry as at Langport, etc. There is a good brass to Sir William Wadham and his lady in the N. transept (c. 1440), and in the same transept the tomb with brasses of Nicholas and Dorothy Wadham (d. 1609 and 1618), the founders of Wadham College, Oxford—"whose hospitable house," writes Fuller, "was an inn at all times, a court at Christmas"—and a tomb of variegated marble to another member of this family, who is represented in armour, standing with his lady under a canopy.

The *Free Grammar School*, which owns the manor of Swanage, in Dorsetshire, is a picturesque building, bearing the date 1586 over the door, formed out of one of the chantry-houses of the town by the beneficence of Humphrey Walrond. The late Dean Alford, of Canterbury, was educated here.

[Adjoining the town is *Dillington House* (Captain A. V. H. Vaughan-Lee, J.P.), and between it and South Petherton a district very remarkable for fertility. The land is on the oolite. The upper and middle lias is also developed here, and among the beds of the former are found abundant remains of fossil saurians, fish, crustaceans, and insects. These fossils are remarkable for their fine preservation, and occur chiefly in a layer of yellow limestone, of which an excellent section may be seen at *Shepton Beauchamp*, near South Petherton.

PLACES NEAR ILMINSTER.

(a) **Barrington Court**, 3 m. N.E. of this town, is a very beautiful gabled mansion of the time of James I., built by Henry, first Earl of Bridgwater, one of the Daubeny family, the exterior well preserved, and the style and taste superior to what is usual at that period, and with more of Gothic detail. It was afterwards a seat of the families of Phelips and Strode, and, when in possession of the latter, was visited by the Duke of Monmouth a few years before his attempt on the crown. The interior is in a sadly neglected state; nearly all the oak fittings have been destroyed, and many of the carved chimney-pieces removed. One of the latter remains in the drawing-room, decorated with the arms of the Strode family.

Barrington has a curious cruciform *Ch.* without aisles, having a central tower of octagonal form. The transepts and part of the tower are E.E., verging to Dec., some of the windows having internally the foliated arch, which occurs at Ditcheat, Butleigh, and elsewhere in Somersetshire. The upper part of the tower is Dec., and there are fine niches of that character in the transepts. There are some old open seats.

(b) 2 m. S.W. of Ilminster, across the fields, is **Donyatt**, with quarries that deserve a visit. The *Ch.* has a fine lofty tower, and good oak benches. It has been well restored. The *Manor House* was built by Montacute, the second Earl of Salisbury, 1345, and portions of the original house remain, used as a barn, that will repay inspection. The main building is of the date of Elizabeth. In 1552 the manor was given by Edward VI. to W. Herbert, Earl of Pembroke. In 1625 it belonged to Sir Edward Coke, Lord Chief Justice, who made considerable alterations in the house.

(c) **White Lackington House**, 1 m. E., was in 1681 the seat of G. Speke, Esq. In the church is a brass to Rajah Brooke, of Sarawak. In the park stood until the great storm of March 3rd, 1897, when it was blown down, the famous chestnut tree under which the Duke of Monmouth took refreshment in his progress to the west, when 20,000 people were assembled together.

(d) 3 m. S.E. is **Cudworth**. The *Ch.* has a rich Norm. tower and font, with lancet and Dec. windows. The vicarage house, built in 1634, was restored in 1889.

(e) **Jordans**, **Broadway**, and **Ashill**.

$2\frac{1}{2}$ m. N.W., in the parish of Ashill, is **Jordans** (W. Speke, Esq., D.L., J.P.), the birthplace of Captain J. H. Speke, the explorer of the sources of the Nile. Here is a fine collection of the many objects of interest brought to England by Captain Speke, and the gold vases presented to him by the county of Somerset.

Close to Jordans, W., is **Broadway**, with an E.E. and Perp. *Ch.*, deriving its name from an ancient road, cut through the adjoining forest of *Neroche*.

Ashill Church, $3\frac{3}{4}$ m. N.W.,

has good Norm. doorways; near it is an ebbing and flowing spring.

(f) 2 m. S.E. is **Dowlishwake**, where the *Ch.* contains a tomb of serpentine inlaid with brass, in memory of Captain Speke, to whom the N. chapel contains a memorial window. The church was rebuilt by the Spekes, 1621–25, in the revived Gothic of the day. The tower is singularly strange and ungainly. There is an ancient font with a brass attached, which was brought from the church of West Dowlish, destroyed before A.D. 1700.

(g) **Castle Neroche**, 6 m. W., ¼ m. off the high-road to Chard, popularly called *Castle Ratch*, is an ancient British entrenchment, occupied subsequently by the Romans, by whom it was strengthened by ramparts of strongly cemented masonry. It stands on a bold projecting point of Black Down, overlooking the Vale of Taunton. The neck of land is strongly fortified with a double mound and ditch. It must have been a place of great strength. It is approached by several British trackways. "Leaving the high-road from Taunton to Chard on the rt., after a walk of something more than ¼ m., we arrive at the end of a rampart, consisting of a trench and high bank on the rt. side of the path. This is the lowest of what may almost be called fieldworks, protecting the only accessible side of the beacon, and continued quite across the sloping side of the hill in the form of a small segment of a large circle. On turning either flank of this rampart we find ourselves in front of another, consisting of a double trench and agger, above which rises a second segmental rampart, similar in construction to the first, but facing more to the N.W., the interior of which is also flanked by a double trench and rampart; and, still higher up the steep ascent, two more ramparts and ditches occupy the face of the slope from one precipitous side to the other, altogether forming a series of works amply sufficient for the protection of the beacon, the two sides of the narrow slope being too steep to require any regular entrenchments, though they were perhaps strengthened by platforms for slingers, some of which I think I have succeeded in tracing. We now find ourselves at the top of the beacon, and from this point, but for the plantation, we should obtain a comprehensive view of the whole entrenchment."—*Rev. F. Warre.*

It should be mentioned that a Roman road passed through the encampment of Castle Neroche. This camp is in the parish of **Buckland St. Mary**, where a very handsome church has been erected at the cost of the rector, Rev. J. E. Lance, which, standing on an eminence, may be seen at a great distance.]

(h) **River Ile, Ilton, Isle Abbots**, and **Isle Brewers.** The river **Ile**, from which Ilminster takes its name, flows N.E., and joins the Parrett above Langford, giving its name also to Ilton, Isle Abbots, and Isle Brewers.

Ilton, 2 m. N.E., has a beautiful Dec. *Ch.* of picturesque outline, with S. transept and a tower adjoining it on the S. side.

the whole well restored; a brass to N. Wadham, 1508, in shroud. He was son of N. Wadham, captain of Carisbrooke Castle temp. Henry VII. *Merrifield*, in this parish, was the manor house of the founders of Wadham College; the moat and part of a tower remain.

Isle Abbots, 5 m. N.E. (so called as having belonged to the Abbot of Muchelney), has a good *Ch.*, with Dec. nave and chancel, and Perp. tower and N. aisle. The tower is a very beautiful one, of the same class as those of North Petherton and Huish Episcopi, etc., and has fine canopied niches, with statues of the Virgin Mary and St. Michael. The S. porch has fine fan-groining with pendants. The S. side of the nave has Dec. windows; the aisle is Perp., and the arcade is of late character. The chancel arch is Perp. and panelled. The chancel is Dec., of rather early character, with some singularities. The E. window is poor, of 5 unfoliated lights; those on the N. side are of 3 lights trefoiled, with quatrefoiled circles on the heads. On the S. are 3 shallow sedilia, without canopies, or at least left unfinished, and eastward of them a rather remarkable arrangement, consisting of a singular piscina and of 2 canopied niches, one over the other, all of excellent work, but a very uncommon arrangement. There are some good open seats, the bench-ends of which have fine carving. The font is Norm., with a square bowl, on cylindrical stem, surrounded by 4 shafts. On the bowl are rude arches, with some foliage and grotesque sculpture.

Further down the stream, among the marshes, is **Isle Brewers**, which owes its name to its former connection with the De Bruyère family, and was formerly the incumbency of the eccentric Dr. Joseph Wolff, by whom the *Ch.* was rebuilt in 1861. Isle Brewers is 6 m. from the Langport Stat. (Rte. 11).]

12 m. **Hatch Beauchamp** Stat., adjoining which are *Hatch Court* (W. C. Hardstaff, Esq.) and *Hatch Park* (Lieutenant-Colonel the Hon. H. P. Gore-Langton, J.P.). The hill-sides are here prettily covered with hanging woods. Proceeding along the line, we have l. a pretty view along a vale to the Blackdowns, which are seen in dark masses by a setting sun. On the rt. is the escarpment of high land extending to Langport, and here hung with plantations. The country is well covered with hedgerow elms and orchards. We pass 14½ m. rt. **Thorn Falcon**, cross the Tone below *Ruishton*, join the Great Western line, and reach

16 m. TAUNTON Stat. (Rte. 2).

ROUTE 11.

DURSTON TO YEOVIL BY LANGPORT (MUCHELNEY) AND MARTOCK.

(*Branch Line G.W. Rly.*)

RAIL.	PLACES.
	Durston.
2½ m.	Athelney.
7 m.	Langport.
12 m.	Martock.
18½ m.	Yeovil Town.
19 m.	Pen Mill.

This line, diverging at the Durston Stat. of the Bristol and Exeter section of the G.W. Rly., ascends the valley of the Parrett to the watershed at Montacute, whence it descends to the valley of the Yeo at Yeovil.

Hard by Durston Stat. is

Mynchin Buckland, or *Buckland Sororum*, the site of a religious house originally founded for regular canons, temp. Henry II., but afterwards granted to the Knights Hospitallers, 1180, as a house for all the sisters of their order scattered through the various preceptories. It subsequently became independent of the Hospitallers, as a distinct priory of Austin nuns. A few late fragments of the buildings, with some monumental slabs, one bearing an incised cross to "Sister Aleanore of Actune," were discovered by Mr. Hugo in 1860.

Leaving Durston, the line runs E., skirting **North Moor**, leaving East Lyng close to the rly. l., to

2½ m. **Athelney** Stat.

The **Isle of Athelney** (A.-S. *Æthelinga-aeg*, "the Isle of Nobles"), formed and fortified by the stagnant waters of the Parrett and Tone near their confluence, is a spot of rising ground surrounded by marshes, now drained and cultivated, and known as Athelney Farm, close to the village of *East Lyng* (supposed by Bp. Clifford to be a corruption of "Ætheling").

It is celebrated in history as the place where King Ælfred established himself after the Danes had overrun the country. Asser, who visited it in Ælfred's lifetime, speaks of it as "surrounded on all sides by water and by vast and impassable peat bogs," to which access could only be had "by causeways, or by a single bridge built and lengthened out with great labour between 2 elevated posts, towards the western part of which a fort of very great strength and most beautiful construction" had been constructed by Ælfred.

It is thus described by William of Malmesbury ("De Gest. Pont."): "Ædelinga-ag is an island surrounded not by the sea, but by fens and overflowing marshes, so as to be altogether inaccessible except by boats. On this island is a forest of alders of vast extent, giving shelter to stags and roebucks, and many other kinds of game. Of dry there is barely two acres. There is a small monastery, with offices for the monks." The bridge and causeway described by Asser are placed by Bp. Clifford between the island and Boroughbridge, on the high ground near Othery. From this fastness Ælfred made frequent incursions against the enemy, and with such

success that he was soon enabled to take the field, when he totally defeated them at Ethandun (identified by Bp. Clifford with Edington on Polden Hill), and captured their king, Guthrum. Having subjected the Danes, he founded a Benedictine abbey at Athelney, of which there are now no remains; but several rude coffins, encaustic tiles, and bosses, and other relics, have been found on the site. A stone pillar bears the following inscription:—"King Ælfred the Great, in the year of our Lord 879, having been defeated by the Danes, fled for refuge to the forest of Athelney, where he lay concealed from his enemies for the space of a whole year. He soon after regained possession of his throne; and in grateful remembrance of the protection he had received, under the favour of Heaven, he erected a monastery on this spot, and endowed it with all the lands contained in the Isle of Athelney. To perpetuate the memory of so remarkable an incident in the life of that illustrious prince, this edifice was founded by John Slade, Esq., of Maunsell, the proprietor of Athelney, and lord of the manor of North Petherton, A.D. 1801." The famous Ælfred's jewel, now in the Ashmolean Museum, Oxford, was found at Newton Park, between Athelney and Bridgwater, in 1693. It is a beautiful specimen of 9th-century jewellery, formed of a crystal cut and polished, set in a case of pure gold, on the flat side of which is a portrait of Ælfred seated on a throne, in enamel. The following inscription is worked in pierced letters of gold: "AElfred mec heht gewyrcan"—"Ælfred had me made." This ornament was formerly supposed to be a necklace jewel, but it was more probably the head of a "baculus cantoris," or precentor's staff, or a reading-pointer.

At the neighbouring village of **Boroughbridge**, 1½ m. N., conspicuous on the top of a hill, locally called the *Mump*, from the top of which there is a splendid view extending over the flats to Glastonbury Tor, are the remains of the cruciform chapel of St. Michael, the rebuilding of which was commenced in 1724, but never completed. It was much injured in the Civil Wars, when Goring garrisoned it with 120 men, who surrendered to Colonel Okey, July 13, 1645, after the battle of Langport and the rout of Aller Moor. In this village is an earthwork called "King Ælfred's Fort."

The *Ch.* of **East Lyng** has a tall slight tower, with singularly fine gargoyles. The font is Norm. There is a fine canopied sedile in the chancel. The bench-ends are of good 16th-century carving, and there is a monoxylic chest in the tower.

¾ m. S.E. is **Stoke St. Gregory**, where the *Ch.* has an octagonal tower. There is some ancient glass in the N. window of the N. transept, and there are some good bench-ends, a cupboard in the vestry with carving from a former reading-desk, and a fine carved pulpit. The old manor-house here, known as *Slough Farm*, is worth a visit.

3 m. l. N.E., overlooking Aller Moor, is **Othery.** The *Ch.* is a very remarkable cruciform structure, with a central octagonal Perp. tower. The fabric is of the 13th century, but it received considerable alterations in the 14th and 15th centuries. The building was restored at great

cost by the late rector. The windows are filled with coloured glass, and there is a unique specimen of a low side window, or lychnoscope, with a perforation in an external buttress to command the opening. There is a Norm. gable cross, a great architectural rarity. At the vicarage a splendid embroidered 15th-century cope is preserved.

1 m. l., on a knoll commanding a wide and lovely view over the rich pasturage of the marshes, is **Aller**, 2½ m. N.W. of Langport Stat., of interest in history as the place where, A.D. 878, after his defeat at Edington, Guthrum the Dane was baptized, Alfred standing sponsor to his vanquished enemy. (See *Wedmore*, Rte. 1.) A large ancient font was some years ago dug out of a pond in the vicarage garden, and has been replaced in the church. It is asserted (but without any foundation) that this is the identical font in which King Guthrum was baptized. The Danish king was probably immersed in the Parrett. The *Ch.*, though small, is interesting, and has 2 remarkable turrets. It contains a stone effigy to Sir W. Botreaux, 1420.

Aller was the birthplace of Dr. Cudworth, 1617, whose father was rector. The marshes below were the scene of the final rout of the Royalist forces by Fairfax and his army, after the battle of Langport, July 10th, 1645. The Royal forces, in the flight from Langport, made a stand at *Aller Drove*, but soon "faced about," says Sprigg, "and never stood after." The horses got lost in the ditches, and the men entangled in the meadows, and were taken prisoners to the number of 140. Fairfax's forces pursued them within 2 m. of Bridgwater, doing execution on them all the way, losing hardly 40 men themselves of killed and wounded.

7 m. ✲ **LANGPORT** Stat. The town of Langport (Pop. 890) stands on the rt. bank of the Parrett, just below its confluence with the Ile and Yeo, where a break in the line of hills gives passage to the united streams, overlooking very extensive marshes. It climbs the hill from the river in one long narrow street, and presents nothing to detain the tourist except its own church and that of Huish, with their noble towers. "A glance at the map shows the strategical importance of Langport. It occupies a neck of land not more than a few hundred yards wide. The bridge unites the Belgic bank with that occupied by the Damnonii, the river Parrett being the boundary between the tribes. The E. point of this neck was defended by earthworks. The lines of defence may be still traced on both sides of the Taunton road."

Langport may have been the Llongforth of Welsh poetry, where a great battle was fought, between the men of Devon, headed by Geraint, and the West Saxons (see Skene's "Four Ancient Books of Wales," ii. 37), which may probably be identified with the engagement with Ina of the A.-S. Chronicle, A.D. 710. "Langport," says Collinson, "was anciently more celebrious than now." It was here that Henry I. first proposed to erect the large Benedictine abbey afterwards founded at Reading.

Charles I.'s forces, under Lord Goring, were defeated by those of the Parliament, July 10th, 1645, near Langport. "It was rather," says Fuller, "a flight than a fight, and henceforward the sun of the King's cause declined, verging more and more westward till at last it set in Cornwall." Fairfax, who had dispersed the "clubmen," and by the very rumour of his approach raised the siege of Taunton, marched hence to Bridgwater, which surrendered July 23rd.

The *Ch.*, at the upper end of the town, a large Perp. building, has a good tower of the date of Henry VII., numerous windows and light arcades, and a chancel with good wood ceiling. There is a curious piece of sculpture over the inner door of the S. porch, used as a choir vestry, representing the Holy Lamb inside a ring, the ring being held by 2 angels, and a bishop standing on either side. The E. window contains some excellent ancient stained glass, well restored. In the vestry, which is below the E. window, as at Ilminster and Crewkerne, is a magnificent monumental slab of Purbeck marble. The W. window is a fine specimen of Mr. Kennedy's work as an artist on glass, executed by Bentham and Co., and erected in memory of the late Walter Bagehot, by his widow. The figures represent Solomon, Moses, David, Job, and Abraham.

Immediately beyond the church the road is crossed by an archway, above which is a Perp. chapel, known as the **Hanging Chapel**, formerly used as a grammar school, and afterwards as the Quekett Museum (perpetuating the name of the celebrated microscopist who was educated here, his father being master of the school), now a Masonic hall. A little further l. rises the exquisite tower of ***Huish Episcopi**, one of the most perfectly lovely of the many fine towers which are the glory of Somersetshire. It is of the Glastonbury type, with projecting pinnacles. The proportions are perfect, and the workmanship excellent. The *Ch.*, which is unworthy of the tower, is of several dates; the Trans. doorway, reddened by fire, of the time of Henry II.; the walls and most of the windows of the 14th century, with ugly flat ogee arches. The S. aisle was added 1873, and more recently a very handsome lych-gate.

Places near Langport.

(a) A walk of 1 m. S. from Huish Church leads to the little village of ***Muchelney**, rising out of the surrounding morass, its remoteness, according to William of Malmesbury, being the cause of its selection (the "muckle eye, or great island"), with its abbey remains, church, village cross, and ancient houses embowered in orchards. It is a place of no ordinary interest, and should by no means be missed. The first house rt. on entering the village, known as the **Almonry**, preserves a fragment of Norm. sculpture over its pointed doorway, a nimbed saint under a semicircular arch. To the l. is the **Vicarage House**, an unaltered example of a small ancient house of the 15th century, with a small hall and parlour beyond, and bed-chamber over. The handle, knocker, lock, and

other fittings of the door should be carefully remarked. The **village cross** has been well restored. The **Ch.** has also undergone an excellent renovation. It is wholly Perp., with a good plain tower and groined belfry, and a very fine canopied stoup at the W. door, and a S. chapel with an enriched panelled ceiling opening into the church by a fine panelled arch. On the ceiling of the nave is a very curious though ugly series of paintings of half-angels executed in the 17th century. There is a handsome founder's tomb, of the 14th century, in the churchyard. The **Abbey** was founded by Athelstan, A.D. 939, and though the abbot was only once summoned to Parliament, was a mitred abbey. The remains are scanty, but highly interesting. The foundations of the abbey *Ch.*, in the churchyard to the S. of the church, have recently been laid bare by the owner, W. Long, Esq., revealing the plan of a Norm. building, terminating in an apse, with a circular Lady Chapel beyond, resembling Becket's Crown at Canterbury. In the 14th century the Norm. Lady Chapel was replaced by a rectangular chapel extending further to the E. The extreme length from the W. wall to the E. end is 235 ft. In a N. transept or chapel may be seen the remains of the altar platform and a mutilated effigy of an abbot in an altar-tomb of the end of the 14th century. The pavements of encaustic tiles discovered in the site have been relaid under the tower and in the chancel of the church. A plan of the ruins has been hung up in the church on the wall of the tower near the W. door. To the S. of the church are the remains of the cloisters and of the **abbot's house**. "This latter is nearly perfect, and presents a fine example of a nobleman's house of the period."—*J. H. P.* The S. front is nearly unaltered, and is a very excellent composition. To the E. of the house are the panelled walls of the domestic chapel, with traces of the screen, and the usual two-storied arrangement at the W. end. One of the chambers, approached by a stone staircase, retains the wainscot and settle and wooden panels of the time of Henry VIII. There is also a magnificent stone panelled chimney-piece, and a ceiling supported by huge lion corbels. Of the Perp. cloister 6 bays of the S. walk remain, now used as a cellar. The springing of the rich vault is still to be seen. At the S.E. corner of the garth is a well walled with stone. The whole group is charming, and full of unusual interest. The vegetation all round is rank and abundant. The botanist will find the *ceterach* and other exquisite ferns, and the Cheddar pink, growing on the old walls.

(b) 2 m. to N.E. of Langport is **Low Ham Church**, formerly a domestic chapel annexed to a mansion now destroyed. It was built by Sir Richard Hext (d. 1624), but in mediæval style. It stands in a large field, and has no churchyard around it. It has a clerestoried nave, groined in plaster. The chancel roof is painted with stars. There are hardly any signs of debasement except the E. window. Over the chancel screen are the royal

arms, and under them the following text: "My son, fear thou the Lord and the King, and meddle not with them that are given to change." There is a fine tomb with the effigies of Sir Edward and Lady Hext, whose only daughter married Sir J. Stawell, the Cavalier leader of Cothelstone, and in this family the property long remained. Lord Stawell began a sumptuous mansion here, "declaring," it is said, "that as he had the most beautiful wife and horse in the world, he would also have the most beautiful house." But it was never finished; a few walls, outbuildings, and grassy terraces, once intended for gardens, alone remain. It is altogether a singular spot.

High Ham Church, built 1476 by Abbot Selwood, of Glastonbury, aided by Lord Poulett and the rector, John Dyer (d. 1499), whose monumental slab records the fact, has a superb rood-screen, a singularly perfect rood-loft and staircase, and a richly carved roof. There is a Norm. font.

(c) **Long Sutton**, 4 m. E., was the quarters of Goring and the Royalist forces before the battle of Langport, and, after their defeat, of Fairfax and his victorious army. The *Ch.* is a good Perp., one of the local type, with a fine tower. The nave has a clerestory and light arcades, and an excellent wood roof, a fine example of the Late Perp. period. There is also a highly enriched screen and rood-loft, stretching across the whole breadth of the church, and an elaborate stone pulpit.

(d) On the other side of the valley of the Parrett, W., a long stretch of high ground rises. On an escarpment of these heights stands the **Parkfield Monument**, commonly known as the *Burton Steeple*, a column 140 ft. high, crowned by a funeral urn, erected by the Earl of Chatham to the memory of Sir William Pynsent. It commands a prospect N. and S., through an avenue of fine trees, particularly beautiful towards the N., where the marshy levels of Bridgwater, extending to the sea-coast, contrast with innumerable hills and woods. To the l. stood the mansion of *Burton House*, now almost entirely destroyed.

For many years this estate was the seat of the Pynsents, but in 1765 Sir William Pynsent, the last of that ancient family, having no issue, bequeathed it to William Pitt, Earl of Chatham, to whom he was an entire stranger, "in his veneration of a great character of exemplary virtue and unrivalled ability," and also on account of Pitt's opposition to the cider tax. The story goes that Sir William on more than one occasion attempted to make his way into Pitt's house, to let him know his intention, but was turned back by the servants on account of his disreputable appearance. When Earl of Chatham, Pitt occasionally resided here, and here the little William Pitt's tragedy of "Laurentius, King of Clarinium" ["bad, of course," writes Macaulay, "but not worse than the tragedies of Hayley"], was acted for the first time, Aug. 22nd, 1772, when the poet had barely attained his 13th year. The grounds once contained a funeral urn, dedicated to his memory by his countess, 1781, who made it her per-

manent home during her widowhood, and died here April 3rd, 1803. This urn was removed to Stowe, 1831. On the dispersion of the objects collected there, the urn fell into the hands of strangers, but was recovered by the late Mr. Banks Stanhope, and now stands in the gardens at Revesby Abbey, Lincolnshire.

(e) **Curry Rivell**, 2 m. S.W. Dean Alford's grandfather was vicar here, and his father resided here in 1819 when curate of Drayton. The *Ch.* is worth a visit. It has a lofty tower, recently rebuilt, a groined porch, with good canopied holy-water stoup outside, and both sides of the nave equally well finished externally. The nave is good Perp., but the chancel has some Dec. work, and the E. window of the N. chapel has ball-flower in its arch moulding and shafts, with nail-heads in the capitals. There are also some sepulchral arches of the same date and very excellent character, in two of which are remarkably small monumental effigies. There is a fine roof, and in a series of niches above the nave arcade are figures of the twelve apostles painted on the wall, apparently of the Jacobean period. Some of the windows have good ancient coloured glass, and there is an elegant rood-screen, which has been divided into two parts and placed in either aisle. L. of the altar a curious monument preserves the memory of Marmaduke and Robert Jennings, whose effigies appear in the costume of troopers, with jack-boots and jerkins. Around the tomb are figures of their wives and their families.

Returning to the rly., and continuing our route, we pass

10½ m. rt. **Kingsbury Episcopi** (2½ m. N.W. of *Martock* Stat.), which has another fine Perp. *Ch.*, with a very rich and beautiful tower, having pierced battlements and pinnacles of the Glastonbury type, and double windows, with stone lattice-work. There is a N. transeptal chapel, which has large windows, containing some remains of good old stained glass. The fine double-panelled tower arch and canopied niches adjacent deserve notice. There is a fair rood-screen and loft. As at Langport, there is a vestry under the E. window. The *Vicarage* has a good Perp. window, and the whole village abounds in ancient houses.

12 m. ✲ **Martock** Stat. (Pop. 2848). Martock is a small picturesque town, containing several ancient houses, originally a manor of the Fienes, chiefly remarkable for its noble and beautifully restored **Church**, one of the largest and finest in the county. The nave and tower are wholly Perp., the latter, which is the earlier, not rich in proportion to the nave, which is of very grand proportions, with fine arcades, having panelled spandrils, a lofty clerestory, with niches between the windows, and a magnificent open *roof of dark oak, one of the finest in the county. The chancel is earlier than the nave, and its E. window consists of 5 lancets. Perp. chapels open into the chancel on each side by two arches. The nave clerestory has a very elaborate pierced parapet. The S. porch is groined, and has a chamber over it.

Opposite the church, and approached by a ruined gateway, is a small **manor house** of the 14th century, in good preservation and an excellent example of the period. The hall has a fine collar-beam timber roof, and is lighted with graceful transomed windows, with foliated rear arches. (See *Barrington*, Rte. 10.) There are two large carved stone brackets for lights. The minstrel gallery is boarded off, but the kitchen and other offices remain much as they were in mediæval times. The *Market Cross* is a fluted column, bearing a sun-dial, ball, and vane, rising from the original base.

Cromwell and Fairfax, with their troops, were at Martock on Sunday, July 27th, 1645, and gave thanks in the church for the taking of Bridgwater.

Thomas Farnaby, a celebrated grammarian, and editor of Virgil, Juvenal, and other classical authors (d. 1647), kept school at Martock.

[**South Petherton**, 3 m. S. by W. of Martock Stat., is a small market town, boasting of a stately cruciform church, with octagonal tower, and chancel windows of early 14th-century date. It contains some ancient tombs, amongst them one, of Purbeck marble, to Sir Giles Daubeny (*ob.* 1445). The house popularly and absurdly known as *King Ina's Palace* was built by the Daubeny family early in the 16th century, and recently restored (Colonel A. R. Hoskyns, R.A., J.P.).

Wigborough House (E. E. Cook, Esq.) is a Tudor mansion, erected 1585, formerly the possession of the Compton, Hele, and Gundry families. *Bridge* (W. Blake, Esq., J.P., D.L.).

Tintinhull, 3 m. E., has a small *Ch.*, without aisles, having early and curious features, and a tower on the N. side of the nave. The prevailing features are E.E., but some windows are Perp. In the chancel are some windows of 2 lights, verging on Dec. The porch has a plain stone-arched roof, with strong ribs. The bench-ends are exceedingly fine, and there are 2 brasses to ecclesiastics of the 15th century.]

The rly. crosses the Fosseway at 13¾ m., and passing rt. under the fine camp-crowned hill of *Hamdon*, and the conspicuous wooded summits of *Montacute*, and the long, stately front of *Montacute House* (Rte. 4), we reach *Montacute Stat.;* then we catch glimpses of the churches and villages of *Lufton* and *Preston* l., and *Odcombe* and *Brympton* rt., and reach

18½ m. *Yeovil* Town Stat. (Rte. 4).

19 m. *Yeovil* (Pen Mill) Stat.

ROUTE 12.

TAUNTON TO WATCHET. BISHOP'S LYDEARD, CLEEVE ABBEY, DUNSTER, MINEHEAD, PORLOCK, AND LYNTON.

(*Branch of G. W. Rly.*)

RAIL.	PLACES.
	Taunton.
5 m.	Bishop's Lydeard.
9 m.	Crowcombe.
11½ m.	Stogumber.
15 m.	Williton.
16½ m.	Watchet.
18¾ m.	Washford.
21 m.	Blue Anchor.
23 m.	Dunster.
24¾ m.	Minehead.

ROAD.	PLACES.
	Minehead.
4½ m.	Holnicote.
5½ m.	Porlock. [dary.
12½ m.	Devon and Somerset boun-
15½ m.	Countesbury.
16 m.	Lynmouth.

On leaving Taunton, we travel along the Great Western line as far as 165 m. *Norton Fitzwarren* (p. 304), *Norton Manor* (W. G. Marshall, Esq., J.P.), where it diverges N.W. along the valley of an affluent of the Tone to

5 m. **Bishop's Lydeard** Stat., a village coloured blood-red by the soil. It is remarkable for its *church tower*, a very beautiful specimen of the Perp. of Henry VII., consisting of 4 stories, which are surmounted by a pierced parapet. The best view of this is to be obtained from a gate between Gore Inn and the stat. There is a brass to Nicholas Grobham, 1585, and his wife Eleanor. The woodwork in this church deserves special notice, the screen being an excellent piece of work, and the *bench-ends being worthy of high praise. Notice especially a windmill, with miller and pack-horse, and birds between the sails, a ship on a blue ground, also another bird with the emblems of the Passion. In the churchyard is a magnificent cross, an unrivalled example of 14th-century work. On the E. face of the shaft is a figure of St. John the Baptist under a canopy. Each of the 8 faces of the socket exhibits a bas-relief—our Lord in majesty to the E., the Resurrection to the W., and the twelve apostles. A fragment of the village cross has found shelter in the same churchyard.

King Alfred had the lands of Lydeard, which he gave to Asser. They afterwards passed to the Bishop of Bath and Wells. Bp. Barlow exchanged them away with Edward VI. for other lands. Here is an almshouse founded and endowed for poor people by Sir Richard Grobham, a native of the parish, in the 17th century. Sir J. Popham, "memorable as for the antiquity of his noble descent, for his strict justice and unwearied diligence," built a mansion here, held in the Civil War as a garrison against the King by Sir R. Grenville, and reduced to a heap of ruins.

2 m. towards Bridgwater, at the foot of the richly wooded Quantock Hills, are the interesting remains of the ancient manor house of **Cothelstone,** formerly the seat of the Stawels, and the modern mansion of that name,

seat of G. E. J. Esdaile, Esq., D.L., J.P. (Rte. 13).

Sir John Stawel, the owner of Cothelstone in the time of the Great Rebellion, was a zealous adherent of his sovereign, who paid for his loyalty by seeing his noble mansion despoiled and devastated, his woods felled, and many of his estates sold. Lord Clarendon characterizes him as a "gentleman of the largest estate that any man possessed in the west, who, from his very great affection for the person of the King and for the government that was settled both in Church and State, engaged with singular courage both his own person and two sons in the most active part of the war, and had rendered himself as odious to Parliament as any man in that condition had done." He lived to see the Restoration, and was one of the 100 knights who welcomed Charles II. at Charing Cross. His loyalty and his sufferings are recorded in his epitaph on the monument in Cothelstone Church. His eldest son was created Lord Stawel. The title is now extinct.

One of the wings of the house was rebuilt, and other parts restored, in 1873, the original features of this singular Jacobean house being carefully preserved. The twisted pillars at the entrance, and dividing the windows, are very curious, and several of them are original. The outer gateway originally occupied a position on the road, and it was on this arch that Judge Jeffreys hanged Colonel Bovet and Mr. Blackmore for their adherence to Monmouth. The inner gatehouse is an excellent, and almost untouched, example of Jacobean work.

In the *Ch.* are 2 Norm. arches, and tombs with fine effigies of the Stawels. There are some good bench-ends, a hagioscope, and a good font. Between the *Ch.* and vicarage is a small erection covering a spring, "St. Agnes's Well," which formerly supplied the manor house with water through a leaden pipe. Still further up the hill is a ruined tower, a "folly" of the last century. From the top of this hill is an excellent view which embraces the Vale of Taunton, bounded by the Brendon Hills, great part of Dorsetshire and part of Wilts, the Channel for 50 m., and the Brecon mountains.

½ m. rt. *Watts House* (Major L. A. Wise); l. *Sandhill Park* (W. P. Baker, Esq., J.P.).

6¾ m. **Combe Flory**, in a richly wooded park, from 1828 the living of the celebrated wit *Sydney Smith* (d. 1845), who made the parsonage one of the most delightful of residences.

"He carried his system of furnishing for gaiety," writes his daughter, Lady Holland, "even to the dress of his books, which were not brown, dark, dull-looking volumes, but all in the brightest bindings." The open windows admitted "a blaze of sunshine and flowers," and commanded a view of a pretty valley and a wood which was traversed by paths. Here the ingenious Sydney would entertain his London friends with many a pleasant device. On one occasion he called in art to aid nature, hanging oranges on the shrubs in the drive and garden. "The stratagem succeeded admirably, and great was his exultation when an unlucky urchin from the

village was detected in the act of sucking one through a quill. It was as good, he said, as the birds pecking at Zeuxis' grapes. At another time, on a lady happening to hint that the pretty paddock would be improved by deer, he fitted his 2 donkeys with antlers, and placed them immediately in front of the windows."

In the *Ch.* are the effigies of a cross-legged mailed warrior and 2 females, members of the Meriet family, to whom the manor belonged from the time of Edward II. In the wall of the N. aisle is a slab with Lombardic lettering of the 13th century, recording the burial there of the heart of a nun of that family. "✠LE : QVER : DAME : MAVD DE : MERRIETE : NONAYNE : DE : CANNYNTVNE." There is a stained window to Sydney Smith in the chancel. In the churchyard is a restored cross.

1½ m. l. is **Lydeard St. Lawrence**, in a beautiful position, commanding a fine view of the dark Quantock Hills, and in particular of *Will's Neck*, the highest point of the range, 1261 ft. above the level of the sea; l. are the Brendon Hills, great offshoots of Exmoor. This village was the birthplace of *Thomas Manton*, a learned Nonconformist divine (b. 1620).

1½ m. further W. is **Tolland**, and S. of it **Gaulden Farm**, a curious old manor-house, the hall of which has a fine plaster ceiling and frieze, the latter with the Temptation of Adam, the Bringing of the Head of St. John the Baptist on a Charger, and other biblical scenes. The arms of the Turbervilles of Bere, Dorset, are here, and the initials "I. T." over a door are believed to be those of James of that family, Bishop of Exeter, 1555–60, who is said to have retired to this house after his deprivation.

9 m. **Crowcombe Heathfield** Stat., a most lonely, desolate spot, 1½ m. S.W. of the romantic little village of Crowcombe (Rte. 13). On the other side of the line we see the flank of a fir-covered knoll, an outlier of Brendon Hill, crowned by *Willet Tower*, a conspicuous object from many distant parts of the county. 1½ m. W. on *Brendon Hill* is a British camp called *Elworthy Barrows*. This range attains a height of 1344 ft. above the sea, and acquired importance by the discovery in it of a valuable vein of carbonate of iron.

The cross-roads here are characteristic of this part of the county: very narrow, deep, precipitous, and overhung with hedges.

On the l. **Elworthy**, a woody, romantic spot. *Willet House* (Miss Blommart).

11½ m. *Stogumber* Stat. ¾ m. l. is

Stogumber, anciently *Stoke Gomer*, and at Domesday Warwardinestoe, famous for its tonic ale, made from a spring possessed of medicinal virtues near the village. The *Ch.*, St. Mary's, is large and handsome, with N. and S. aisles, and 2 chapels. The N. aisle was built by Cardinal Beaufort, whose seat, Halsway Manor, is near here. There is a double hagioscope, a very rare feature in church architec-

ture. It has a stone pulpit and some fine monuments, one especially of Sir G. Sydenham, a major in the Cavalier army (d. 1664) (whose ghost is still believed to ride his spectral horse down Sydenham Combe), and his 2 wives. There is also a brass to Margery (Chamberlayne) Windham (*ob.* 1585), and some good bench-ends. A cross restored in questionable taste stands in the churchyard; 2 m. on the l. is situated, in a narrow deep valley, the Elizabethan manor-house of **Combe Sydenham**, worthy of a visit. It has a gabled tower in the centre, the remains of a noble kitchen, and other indications of having been a mansion of great importance. It is, however, much out of repair. Over the entrance porch, bearing the date 1580, is the inscription—

"Porta tuis semper Georgii generose patebo,
Ingratis animis janua clausa patens,"

with shields bearing the arms of Sydenham and Stourton.

3 m. W., in a deep valley or combe, is **Monksilver.** The Perp. *Ch.* contains some good bench-ends and a screen, and has been restored, and a churchyard cross erected. One of the gargoyles on the S. side represents the extraction of a tooth. In the churchyard is a monument to Mrs. Conybeare and her 2 daughters, who were murdered in their house, 1773. To the l. 1 m. are the park and gardens of **Nettlecombe**, seat of Sir J. W. Trevelyan. This is a fine ancestral place, and contains numerous portraits of the Trevelyans, with many curiosities, such as an original grant of Nettlecombe in the reign of Henry II., and a miniature portrait of Charles I. worked with his own hair. An oak in the park measures 17 ft. in circumference near the ground. Nettlecombe *Ch.* contains some fine monuments to the Raleighs and some good 15th-century glass. The font is carved with the 7 sacraments. In the wall of the S. or Raleigh aisle are 2 E.E. recesses, one containing a cross-legged effigy, the other those of a knight and lady. At Nettlecombe several bushels of human bones were discovered, supposed to be the remains of the Danes who landed at Watchet, and were defeated there. **Leighland Chapel**, further W., in a romantic dell, by Treborough, was formerly attached to the abbey of Old Cleeve.

13 m. rt. on the hill is the village of **Bicknoller** (Rte. 13).

14 m. l. is **Sampford Brett**, with a *Ch.* with carved benches and pulpit of black oak, and in the vestry a cross-legged effigy of a knight in armour, said to be one of the Bretts, possibly Richard Brito or Brett of this family, who was one of the murderers of St. Thomas of Canterbury. On a bench-end at the W. end of the nave is a figure of a woman with 2 children, said to be Florence Wyndham (*ob.* 1562) (respecting whose story see *Kenisford*, p. 461). At the foot of the hills is *Weacombe House;* away in the distance, l., the ranges beyond Dunster, and the huge Dunkery Beacon.

15 m. ✲**Williton** Stat. (Pop. 3073), a village of 2 long streets in a sheltered valley under the

Quantock Hills, about 2 m. from the sea. The cottages are embowered in myrtles and creepers; but there is little here to delay the traveller, the remains of 2 old crosses by the inn and one in the churchyard being the only objects of any curiosity. To the S. are seen the fir-crowned hills of **Nettlecombe Court**; and nearer Williton is **Orchard Wyndham**, formerly the seat of the earls of Egremont. Orchard Wyndham is a beautiful old manor house, for the last 3 centuries the seat of the Wyndhams.

It was here that 2 king's messengers came, on Sept. 21st, 1715, to arrest Sir W. Wyndham, M.P. for Somerset, who was suspected of being mixed up in the Pretender's plot. Sir William was not up, but came in his dressing-gown to the disturbers of his slumbers, who thereupon told him "he was their prisoner." He requested leave to return and dress himself, saying "that his coach-and-six would be ready at 7 to convey the party," but he slipped out of a back door, and though a reward of £1000 was offered by the Privy Council, he, by assuming the habit of a clergyman, managed to elude detection, till at last he surrendered himself, and remained a prisoner in the Tower till June, 1716, when he was admitted to bail, and returned home.

In Blackdown Wood, near Orchard Wyndham, is an upright stone 7 ft. high, bearing a star and female head and inscription, long supposed to be a memorial tablet to a young Roman lady, Julia Martima, but proved by Mr. W. George, of Bristol, to be a modern forgery, incorrectly copied from an engraving of a slab at Ellenborough, in Cumberland. It is popularly called "*Old Mother Shipton's Tomb.*" In the reign of Henry II. Williton was the residence of Sir Reginald Fitz Urse, one of the murderers of St. Thomas of Canterbury.

[This is a convenient stat. from which to take a walk on the Quantocks, for those stopping at Minehead or any other of the adjacent seaside places. Ascend the hill beyond West Quantockshead, and climb to the top of Beacon Hill (1019 ft.), and keep along the top, descending at Crowcombe and returning from the stat. there (about 9 m.), or keep still further on and descend at Cothelstone, taking the train home at Bishop's Lydeard (about 14 m.).]

[It is a walk of 2 m. or 1½ m. over stile and by green pathway (*over the ground*, in Somersetshire dialect) to the small but ancient seaport of *Watchet*, passing the *Parish Ch.* of

St. Decuman's, so called from its patron saint (d. 706), who, according to the legend, crossed the sea from Wales on a hurdle (some accounts say his cloak), became a hermit here, was nourished by a cow, and was here subsequently martyred. It occupies a commanding point of view, and the tall, bare, square tower is very conspicuous. It contains memorials of the Wyndhams. Among them are brasses of Sir John Wyndham and his wife, 1571; of John Wyndham and his lady Florence, habited in the dress of the period, 1572, 1596; monuments of Henry and George Wyndham, with 2 kneeling figures

the size of life, 1613, 1624; of Sir William Wyndham, 1683; and of the late Earl of Egremont, a slab of blue marble emblazoned with shields. The roof, pulpit, screen, and pews are of carved oak; and the churchyard contains an ancient *cross* (restored), early 14th-century. Close to the church is the old manor house of **Kentisford**, now a farm. The wife of one of the Wyndhams, its owner, is said to have been interred in a trance, from which she was aroused by the attempt of the sexton to steal her rings by cutting off her finger. After this occurrence she gave birth to one of the two children with whom she is represented on the bench-end at Sampford Brett.]

The rly. reaches in

16½ m. ✲ **Watchet**, situated at the end of a pretty valley, which runs obliquely to the sea. It is a small port, with some pretensions to be called a watering-place, with a pier built by Sir W. Wyndham, Secretary-at-War under Queen Anne, iron foundry, and paper mills, its principal business being the importation of coal for the limekilns. On either side of it are cliffs of blood-red conglomerate, streaked by light green bands of limestone, and, towards Blue Anchor, abounding in alabaster, which is collected and ground for cement in a mill at Williton.

The shore here is low, and affords a convenient landing, of which the piratical Danes more than once took advantage, disembarking their marauding hosts here. In 988, the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle tells us, "the port of Watchet was plundered. This attack, however, was not successful in effecting a lodgment. Several of the English thanes were killed, but the Danes were at last beaten off." Beyond Watchet breezy, heathy hills look down on the sea at their foot. The walk along the shore to *Blue Anchor* (*post*), 2 m. W., is much to be recommended. Picturesque cliffs overhang the sea. [At *Watchet* a short rly. diverges to the *Brendon Hills* (West Somerset Mineral Rly.), with stations at *Washford* (2 m.), *Roadwater* (4 m.), and a terminus at *Combe Road* (6 m.).]

The rly. turns inward to

18¾ m. **Washford**, close to which in a valley, called in old records *Vallis Florida*, the Flowery Vale, which is watered by a stream flowing into the Channel at Watchet, are the singularly beautiful and interesting ruins of

* ✲ **CLEEVE ABBEY**, founded for Cistercian monks, 1188, by William de Romare, grandson of the Earl of Lincoln, the founder of the Cistercian abbey of Revesby, in Lincolnshire, of which Cleeve was an offshoot. From their remarkable state of preservation, these ruins are far more interesting, both to the archæologist and artist, than most monastic remains. The foundations of the church and other portions have been unearthed at the expense of their present owner, Mr. Luttrell, of Dunster, under the able superintendence of the late Rev. Mackenzie Walcott. The farm buildings which covered the site of the *Ch.* have been entirely cleared away, and the whole area laid bare.

The abbey buildings were surrounded by a moat. The **gatehouse** is a structure of the time of Richard II., with additions made to it by William Dovell, the last abbot. Over the arch of entrance is an inscription admitting of a double meaning:—

"Porta patens esto
Nulli claudaris honesto."

Above this is a square-headed window, of Late Perp., surmounted by 2 niches, the upper containing a figure of the Virgin and Child. A passage, above which is a guest-chamber, leads to the enclosure. On the other side of the gatehouse is inscribed the name of Dovell, the last abbot, and above this is a crucifix. Crossing the enclosure, the 15th-century **cloisters**, of which only the W. side remains, are entered.

By the W. cloister door, we have then to our l., on the N. side of the quadrangle, the remains of the **Church**.

Facing us on the E. side is the **dormitory**, of E.E. date, measuring 137 ft. 6 in. by 24 ft. 3 in., lighted by a row of unglazed and shutterless lancets, raised on a vaulted substructure, and communicating with the S. transept of the church by a door and staircase still to be traced. The dormitory is reached from the cloister by a fine E.E. door, with shafts of blue lias, altered in Perp. times, and a stone staircase. The floor is incomplete, and the **fratry** is thus exposed. It is almost the most perfect conventual dormitory existing. The small arched room under the N. end of the dormitory was the **sacristy**; it is surrounded by aumbries, and has a fine piscina on the S. wall, with a projecting basin, and side ledges for the cruets. The wall at the back has some very pretty decorative painting. The conjecture that the large circular aperture at the E. of this room was used for removing a monk's corpse into the conventual burying-ground is negatived by the position of the altar immediately below it. Beyond this is the entrance to a chamber lighted by a single lancet. It is believed to have been the **exchequer**. That is succeeded by the entrance into the chapter-house, a beautiful E.E. doorway, between 2 two-light windows, which have never been glazed, with chamfered mouldings and blue lias shafts. The western part of the chapter-house below the dormitory retains its low vaulting; the eastern bay rose higher, and was lighted from the E., N., and S. Next we have the stairs to the dormitory; the slype, a passage to the cemetery, from which is the entrance to the calefactory, a monks' day-room, nearly 70 ft. long, divided into two alleys by a central arcade, and lighted with 2-light windows at the S. end.

On the S. side of the quadrangle, to the rt., stands the **refectory**, of the 15th century, the work of the last abbot, William Dovell, a very stately building, with 5 fine traceried windows to the N. and 4 to the S. The usual position of the refectory in Cistercian houses was, as at Beaulieu and Rievaulx, at right angles to the cloister, and a magnificent pavement of encaustic tiles, bearing the arms of Clare and of Richard, King of the Romans, has recently been laid bare, marking its site. The posi-

tion of the present refectory, parallel to the church, as in Benedictine houses, is exceptional. It stands on an E.E. substructure, and is approached by a handsome staircase, to the l. of which is the monks' lavatory. The hall is 51 ft. long and 22 ft. broad, and still retains its beautiful carved hammer-beam roof, with angel corbels. On the E. wall may still be traced an ancient fresco painting of the Crucifixion, and on the S. side the place of the reading-pulpit. Further W. are the windows of the buttery, and the abbot's parlour, and the entrance to the kitchen and offices. The W. side of the cloisters to the N. of the entrance was also rebuilt by the abbot Dovell. It seems to have been divided into carels for study, lighted by fine Perp. windows. Here may be traced the remains of the **Domus Conversorum**, a house of the lay brothers. The other walks of the cloister were a mere pentice. To the N. of the cloister garth is the S. wall of the church. In the centre a trefoiled archway marks the seat of the claustral prior.

The **Church**, of which only the foundations remain, was 161 ft. in length, of the purest Cistercian type, consisting of a nave of 5 bays, with cylindrical pillars, fragments of which remain, a low central tower, short transepts, each with two square chapels, and a shallow aisleless presbytery. The whole appears to have been in the Trans. and E.E. style. The foundations of the walls supporting the stalls and of the western screen of the ritual choir may be traced. Portions of the exquisite encaustic tile pavement are carefully protected by glass. Bp. Hooper, the martyred Bishop of Gloucester, had in his early days been a monk of Old Cleeve.

A shady lane leads N.W. to **Old Cleeve**. The remains of a wayside cross will be passed midway between Washford and the *Ch.*, an interesting building, the floor slanting upwards from the tower to the chancel. The tower is a fine Perp. structure in 3 stages, with a band of tracery in the middle story. The roofs of the nave and S. aisle have bosses and angel corbels, and carved wall-plates. Portions of the rood-screen do duty as a reredos. The font is Perp. Under an ogee arch is the effigy of a layman (c. 1410–40), with a cat watching a mouse at his feet. "Such sculptured effigies of laymen of this date are very rare."—*M. K. B.* In the churchyard stands another old cross in a fair state of preservation. The site of the *Chapel of our Lady of Cleeve*, much frequented by worshippers in mediæval times (as well as portions of a house of the 14th century), is nearer *Blue Anchor*.

At Washford the rly. returns to the coast and reaches

* **Blue Anchor** Sta. (21 m.), a quiet, cosy little watering-place, seated on rising ground by the side of the salt marsh which extends to Minehead. It commands one of the most beautiful prospects in the county, and for this reason should be visited by travellers who find their way to Dunster or Minehead. Around the alluvial plain to the W. of it the hilly ranges circle in amphitheatrical order, wild and heath-

covered, sweeping in undulating outline from Minehead to the Quantocks. In advance of them rises the towered cone of Dunster, and through the vista of the valley of Avill looms the giant Dunkery.

The shore here is interesting. To the E. is a remarkable headland of rock of a dull green colour, intersected in every direction by ramifying lines of alabaster. Both in form and colour it bears some resemblance to a berg of polar ice. The strata are curved and contorted, and, dipping to the sea, have become caverned in a singular manner. They overlie the new red sandstone, which appears again within ½ m. of Watchet. The alabaster occurs in irregular veins, either white or of a cornelian red. It is largely collected and ground for cement. The sea here retires for a long distance, and at low-water spring tides exposes the fossil remains of a submerged forest. Compressed ammonites, having the iridescent nacre, may be found on the beach.

The rly. runs along the shore of the Channel, with wide views across the sea to the Welsh shore, and the mountains beyond.

1 m. W. is **Marshwood Farm,** an old house of the Luttrells, rebuilt by George Luttrell, of Dunster (c. 1620), mentioned by Leland. The porch contains some curious bas-reliefs in plaster, removed from the interior, by the same hand as those in Dunster Castle and in the Luttrell Arms Inn. **Aller**, the manor house of the Everards, also mentioned by Leland, 1 m. further inland, has some ancient portions.

22 m. **Carhampton.** The *Ch.* was restored in 1862, and the tower rebuilt in 1870. The chancel screen is painted and gilt. This village gives the title to the hundred; l., 1 m. S.E. up a glen, lies the village of *Withycombe*, with a Perp. *Ch.*, beyond which is a pretty combe running up into the hills. On one side of the hills above the village is the supposed site of a British village; and in a lane leading to it the conjunction of the red sandstone with the Devonian series may be observed.

½ m. E. **Sandhill**, built in 1588, was formerly the residence of a branch of the Escott family, but is now a farmhouse.

23 m. ** **Dunster** Sta. (Pop. 1114), a characteristic specimen of an old English town, with its quaint steep streets, its picturesque market cross, its old houses, with pentices projecting on brackets, and the ivied towers of the castle closing the vista.

Dunster is situated in the midst of the most beautiful scenery in Somersetshire, so that a stranger may well amuse himself here for some days by exploring the neighbourhood. The chief points of interest are the castle and its park, the view from Grabhurst Hill, the ruins of Cleeve Abbey, Blue Anchor, Minehead, Porlock, Culbone, and Dunkery Beacon. The fisherman will find in the little river trout and eels, and near the sea salmon and mullet.

Copper coins of Maximian and Constantine prove that Dunster

NORTH COAST OF SOMERSET, ETC.

London. John Murray, Albemarle Street.

was inhabited in the time of the Romans. Nothing certain is known of its history till the reign of Edward the Confessor, when, we learn from Domesday, it formed part of the property of one Alluric. It was then known by the name of *Torre*, but by the year 1100 it had acquired the prefix it has ever since retained, being called *Dunestora* in a grant of the date of the advowson of the church to the monks of St. Peter's, Bath, by William de Mohun. The manor was granted by the Conqueror to William de Mohun, as one of the 68 manors held by him in the west of England, and here he erected his castle. Dunster remained in the hands of his descendants for nearly three centuries and a half. After the death of John de Mohun in 1376, the reversion was sold by his widow, Lady Joan, to Lady Elizabeth Luttrell, second cousin to the Black Prince, in the possession of whose descendants it has remained till the present day. In 1360 Dunster returned members to Parliament for the first and last time.

** **Dunster Castle**, "the Alnwick of the west," is not open to the public, but the grounds may be seen. It crowns Tor, where it slopes to the valley of Avill, in full view of the wild height of Grabhurst, of the sea-coast, and of the beautiful castle park. It is the "Stancy Castle" of Hardy's novel, "A Laodicean."

A castle was erected here by William de Mohun in the 12th century, and held by him in opposition to King Stephen, as a centre from which he devastated the whole country round. Stephen appeared against Dunster, but despaired of taking by assault a place of such extraordinary strength; he therefore surrounded the castle with his forces to keep Mohun in check, and retired, delegating his authority to Henry de Tracy, of Barnstaple, who stopped Mohun's predatory sallies. Between the 12th and the 17th centuries the annals of Dunster are uneventful. In the civil wars of the latter century it occupied a distinguished place. In 1642 the castle was held by Mr. Luttrell for the Parliament, and the failure of the Marquis of Hertford, who had taken up a strong position at Minehead, to get possession of it, caused it to be regarded as impregnable. The Royalist successes in the west led Mr. Luttrell to surrender the castle in 1643, and it was garrisoned for the King and held by his forces till 1646, Colonel Francis Windham being the governor. During this period Prince Charles, afterwards Charles II., paid the castle a visit, and slept in the room which still bears his name. In 1645 the tide had turned, and Dunster was the only place held for the King in Somerset, but, isolated as it was, ineffectually, except as a means of annoyance to the district immediately around it. As it was desirable to stop even this, Blake and Sydenham, with a small party from Taunton, laid siege to Dunster early in November. Windham turning a deaf ear to Blake's repeated summons to surrender, the latter pushed forward his earthworks, batteries, and mines, determined to end the business. The besieged replied with countermines, and, hard pressed as they were for provisions, continued to hold out with the utmost resolution. Several furious attempts having failed, a strong force sent by Lord Hopton managed to reach Dunster and relieve the castle on February 5th, forcing Blake to retire. Blake, however, continued the blockade till, Exeter and Barnstaple having fallen, Fair-

fax sent a regiment to strengthen him, and the King's cause being seen to be hopeless, Windham surrendered the castle April 19th, after a close siege of 160 days. The surrender of Dunster ended the struggle in Somerset, and finally destroyed the power of the King. An ordinance issued from the Parliament that the castle should be dismantled, and a rate was levied in the district for that purpose. The order, however, happily, was not carried into effect, and two years later, 1648, Prynne was sent to confinement there by Cromwell, finding a congenial employment in searching and arranging the family muniments.

The earliest part of the existing building is the entrance gateway, which, together with the projecting semicircular towers and the thick wall which connects them, was probably built by Reginald Mohun the second (d. 1258). The gatehouse, which spans the road from the N.W., the "fair tourre by north cummyng into the castle," erroneously ascribed by Leland to Sir Hugh Luttrell the second, temp. Henry VII., was more probably built by the earlier Sir Hugh, who, we know, executed much architectural work at the castle (c. 1417). It abuts against and partly incorporates one of the flanking towers of the earlier gateway. His son, Sir John, strengthened it by the erection of two buttresses on the N. side. The two shields over the W. arch, impaling the arms of Luttrell and Courtenay, commemorate the marriage of Sir John's son, Sir James, with Elizabeth Courtenay, of Powderham, as well as that of his great-grandfather, Andrew Luttrell, with Lady E. Courtenay, the purchaser of Dunster. The present S. front was erected by Henry Fownes Luttrell (d. 1780), on the formation of the artificial platform in 1764, which came up to the line of the upper story of the gatehouse and buried the lower part. The Perp. doorway was removed from another part of the castle. The present owner has converted the upper stories into one large room, 46 ft. long. The adaptation of the old fortress to modern requirements was carried out by George Luttrell (d. 1629) at the beginning of the 17th century. The plaster ceiling of the hall, and plaster mantelpieces, and many of the existing doors and windows may be attributed to him. The elaborate ceilings of the staircase and parlour are due to Francis Luttrell, 1681. He married the heiress of the Tregonwells, of Milton Abbey, whose arms are impaled with his on the parlour ceiling. It continued as fitted up by him till a recent period, when great changes and improvements have been effected by the present proprietor, Mr. George Fownes Luttrell, from the designs of the late Mr. Salvin. The N. tower of the principal façade was replaced by a larger one with projecting stair turret. The porch was rebuilt on a larger scale, and an additional story was added to the greater part of the edifice. A lofty tower was erected on the S. front on the site of an incongruous chapel built in 1720. The hall was enlarged by throwing rooms into it, and the whole house converted into a splendid and comfortable residence.

The Norm. keep of the Mohuns has entirely perished. The summit of the lofty Tor is occupied by a bowling-green. It was formerly known as Mount Stephens, from a chapel dedicated to the first martyr and mentioned as early as 1254.

The interior of the castle is full of interest, and is magnificently fitted up. The *hall* has an embossed ceiling with pendants, and contains a portrait of Cromwell by *Vandyck*, and a singular picture by Lucas de Heere in 1550, restored in 1591, absurdly said to represent Sir John Luttrell (temp. Henry VIII) saving the lady of his love from drowning; the supposed lady being really a young man with a moustache. The picture is probably partly allegorical, with reference to some event (now unknown) in Sir John's life. In the background is a man-of-war struck by lightning and deserted by its crew. Semi-nude female figures appear in the clouds above, the chief bearing a sprig of olive. The *great staircase* has elaborately carved balustrades, polished steps, and rich stucco ceiling, 1681; *Prince Charles' Room* has a mantelpiece ornamented with coarse reliefs in stucco, dated 1620. The ancient *corámi*, or leather hangings, painted in imitation of tapestry, certainly of Italian, probably of Venetian, manufacture, date from the 17th century, the subject being the history of Antony and Cleopatra. Among some stuffed specimens of birds in the castle are a white rook and a blackbird spotted grey as by age.

Passing beneath the gatehouse, the visitor, noting on the way the iron-studded door and flanking drum-tower on the rt., will be conducted to the terrace to the S. of the castle, where his attention will be drawn to a remarkable lemon-tree trained against the wall, and bearing fruit in great plenty, and to the yew hedge, some 50 ft. high, through a gap of which is seen a little bridge crossing the sparkling stream. He will then be led by a circling walk to the summit of the wooded hill on which the Norm. *keep* of the Mohuns stood, now a bowling-green. Here, through openings in the trees, is a series of enchanting views: through one the town of Minehead and its hills; through another Blue Anchor, the rocky islets of the Holmes and a distance of Welsh mountain; a third will show him the glens and straggling oaks of the park; and a fourth, the valley of Avill in long perspective to the brown sides of Dunkery. Around the wooded hill are numerous shady walks, which here and there give a peep through a gap of a glittering eddy in the stream, or the wheel of a water-mill. On the lawn there is an excellent echo, which will 3 times repeat the blast of a bugle-horn.

The **Church**, though of inferior workmanship, is one of some size and dignity, 157 ft. in length from E. to W., cruciform, with a central tower, and with points of special ecclesiological interest. The minster type it displays is explained by Dunster having been a cell of Bath Abbey, originally founded here by Sir William de Mohun, in the reign of the Conqueror Of this some fragments still exist

among the buildings of the adjacent farm, N. of the choir, including the prior's lodgings, with square-headed windows, and the conventual dove-cot. The great barn of the monks is a prominent feature in the landscape from many points of view. There is documentary evidence that the tower, of stately outline, rising in 3 stories above the roof, was built in 1419, and this date would probably suit the larger part of the edifice, though it has a Norm. W. door, and earlier fragments are to be seen within. That which makes this *Ch.* specially remarkable is the peculiarity of its internal arrangements. On entering, it will be seen that the whole space E. of the tower is cut off, the altar being under the eastern tower arch. Nor is this a modern arrangement, as is proved by the existence of a noble rood-screen *in situ*, and the rood-turret, some distance to the W. of the tower. "This rood-turret is the key to the history of this church."—(*E. A. F.*) In fact, Dunster Church, like many conventual churches, contains two churches under one roof. This has been so at least since 1499, when, in consequence of a dispute between the vicar of the parish and the prior of the cell, such as were continually arising in mediæval times, when the same building was shared by two parties, it was decided by the Abbot of Glastonbury that the monastic choir should be resigned to the sole use of the monks, and that the parishioners should make themselves a new choir in the nave. Accordingly the nave is still used for the parish services, while the choir, having at the dissolution passed into the possession of the owners of Dunster Castle, was for a long time (as at Arundel) allowed to fall into a lamentable state of neglect. The whole has recently been restored in the most munificent manner by Mr. Luttrell, under the direction of the late Mr. Street, R.A. The altar, which originally stood under the western tower arch, has been transferred to the eastern arch, and behind it a low solid screen has been erected, keeping up the original division of the chancel from the nave. The chancel is admirably fitted with oak stalls, and is used for daily prayers. The effect of the nave within is solemn, if not gloomy, owing to its extreme width and lowness, and the absence of a clerestory. It is divided from the aisles by tall, well-proportioned Perp. arcades, 6 arches to S., 4 to N. The N. aisle is shortened by two bays, where the prior's house abutted upon it. The ceilings are coved, with carved ribs and bosses, except in the S. aisle, which has a rich flat-panelled ceiling. The piers of one of the original Norm. arches of the lantern may be seen on the W. side of the tower, though a later arch, corresponding to the date of the tower, has been constructed beyond. The visitor should notice the very whimsical device for making a wide opening of a narrow one in the eccentric arch opening from the S. transept to the S. aisle of the choir. A narrow E.E. arch has been raised on moulded jambs, bent outward immediately below the capitals, producing a wider-shouldered aperture of very ugly form. The

presbytery of two bays has been rebuilt by Mr. Street in the E.E. style, with an eastern triplet, following the indications of the original structure. There is a chantry to the N. containing a fine altar-slab, with its 5 crosses. Between it and the presbytery is the rich canopied altar-tomb of Sir Hugh Luttrell, 1428, and his lady, 1433. On the S. wall of the presbytery a beautiful Late Dec. ogee canopy covers the effigy of a lady of the Everard family. There is also an incised stone slab of Elizabeth Luttrell (d. 1493). In the N. chapel is a massive stone altar of the earlier part of the 13th century. In the S. aisle of the nave is a brass dated 1495, with an English inscription ending in Latin. The font is a fair Perp. one, carved with emblems of the Passion, and there is a little wood screen-work, and some ancient tiles.

After the church the **Luttrell Arms Inn** claims attention. It was once probably a residence of the abbots of Cleeve.—*Page.* It has a stone porch with openings for crossbows, and a wing at the back with a good open roof, and an elaborately carved façade of oak. There is a carved ceiling in the commercial room, and a chimney-piece richly ornamented with sculptures, representing 2 full-length female figures dressed in the style of Elizabeth, the fable of Actæon, coats of arms, and other devices, also an emblazoned escutcheon of the Luttrells in an upper chamber. At the back of the house are remains of a chapel, and in the kitchen a huge fireplace. On the hill beyond the garden are the earthworks thrown up by the Parliamentary army during the siege of the castle.

The ***Yarn Market**, an ancient picturesque, octagonal structure of wood, with wide-spreading pentice, "its effect about as perfect as may be" (*E. A. F.*), recalls the time when Dunster was of importance for the manufacture of kerseymeres, which are mentioned in an Act of Parliament of James I., under the name of "Dunsters." It was built by George Luttrell (c. 1600), and repaired by his grandson of the same name in 1647, a year after Blake's siege. The vane bears his initials. One of the rafters of the building was pierced by a cannon-shot from the castle, and the hole may still be seen.

In the street leading to the church is a very curious wooden building of the 15th century, with 3 overhanging stories, and a tall gable, retaining some old staircases and some windows of earlier date. It has the local name of the "**Nunnery**," and is sometimes also called "The High House." It was the property of the chantry of St. Lawrence in the church, and there is some possibility that it may have been used as the guest-house of the priory.

Conygar Hill, the far-seen landmark of Dunster, forms a pyramid of foliage, crowned by the picturesque shell of a tower, erected as a prospect-house about 1775, and from its prominent position is a well-known seamark. Conygar is a corruption of Coney

Garth, the rabbit enclosure, and designates the warren, the usual appendage of a country mansion in mediæval times.

Near the rly. stat., on the level towards the Channel, lies **Lower Marsh Farm,** where there still exist a very curious small Perp. oratory over the porch and traces of an open-roofed hall.

Walks and Drives from Dunster.

(a) The **park** affords scope for an extensive ramble. It occupies one of the rough hills here descending in numberless knolls to the lower country. Its sides are seamed by dingles and glens, in which grow irregular woods of oak. The tourist should not neglect to visit the so-called Cæsar's Camp (called Bat's Castle in the Ordnance map), situated at the highest part of the park, at an elevation of 693 ft. The way lies through the *deer-park*, which is several miles in circumference, up a rugged hollow by the side of a brook. It is not a Roman camp of the classical shape, being nearly circular, and having only two entrances, but it was undoubtedly used by the Romans. It has a double vallum and a fosse. The view from here is very fine, and embraces the great offshoots of Exmoor, the Quantock Hills, and the coasts both of Somerset and Wales. Grabbist lies to the N.W., and S. are the woods about Luxborough, and the dark ridge of Brendon, 1344 ft. above the sea. A short distance below this camp is a second small circular earthwork, with a single entrance overlooking the charming vale of Avill.

(b) **Croydon Hill,** beyond that on which the camps are placed, rises to an elevation of 1238 ft., and commands some fine views.

(c) **Grabbist Hill** is an easily accessible height for the study of this glorious landscape. It rises immediately from Dunster, to an elevation of 761 ft. From the Timberscombe road there is a path to the summit which commands a view of the grand mass of Dunkery, the sea, and distant coast. A splendid walk may be taken along the summit to Minehead, descending by Stopcott. The pedestrian can return by the lower road or by rail. On the southern slope are remains of the terraces on which stood the racks for drying the cloths, or "Dunsters," formerly made in this neighbourhood. Beneath is the vale of Avill, through which runs the little river of the same name. On the N. the view extends over Blue Anchor Bay, Minehead and the North Hill, Selworthy Beacon, and Porlock Bay. Deep on the S.W. side of this hill, about 3 m. from Dunster, is **Wootton Courtenay**, a village so named from the noble family who possessed it of old, and of interest for the beauty of its position and the carving of the capitals of the *Ch.* The pillars separating nave and aisle are ornamented with sculptured figures of St. Christopher, St. Lawrence, etc.; the font also deserves notice, and the columnar holy-water stoup in the porch.

The churchyard has the panelled base of a cross and a venerable yew-tree. S. of Grabbist lies **Timberscombe**, with its manor house of *Bickham*.

(d) There is a pretty lane between Grabbist and Conygar, leading from Dunster to Alcombe, where it joins the main road. At a cross-road, ½ m. from Dunster, is a roadside *cross*.

(e) A beautiful drive (about 16 m.) can be taken from Dunster through Timberscombe, ascending the long hill behind the church to Couple Cross, and then, passing by the lonely village and church of **Luxborough** (rt. *Chargot Lodge*, the property of J. H. Insole, Esq.), descending through a wooded valley of great beauty for some miles to Cleeve Abbey and Washford, and so returning to Dunster through Carhampton.

(f) From Dunster to Dulverton, 14 m., is one of the most romantic drives in the country. The road passes through deep wooded valleys, and for some distance along the banks of the Exe, having reached the watershed at Wheddon Cross.

24¾ m. ✲ **MINEHEAD** (Pop. 1799), seated under a bold promontory called the North Hill, 843 ft. high, the E. point of a wild range of hills extending along the coast to Porlock, one of the grandest features of the coast of the Bristol Channel. This town, which returned 2 members of Parliament till it was disfranchised by the Reform Bill, consists of 3 detached parts: the *Upper Town*, on the hill, the *Lower Town*, and the *Quay Town*, the last ½ m. distant from the inn by an elm-shaded road along the shore. Minehead in times past had a considerable trade, particularly in the export of woollen goods and of herrings to the Mediterranean, of which as many as 4000 barrels were shipped annually before the herrings left this part of the coast. From the former it derived its arms, a ship under sail and a woolpack. The quay was built by George Luttrell, 1616, at the cost of £5000. Minehead was a favourite landing-place from Ireland 200 years ago. At the present day it is of no mercantile consequence, but a pleasant and much-frequented watering-place, the neighbourhood being very beautiful and the climate mild. There are good sands and a shingle beach, with bathing-machines.

Minehead was in early times subject to incursions from the Welsh from across the Channel. Rishanger tells us that in 1265, the Sunday before the battle of Evesham, this district was devastated by a multitude of Welshmen under William of Berkeley, landing at Minehead, but who were routed by Adam of Gurdon, Constable of Dunster, who put many to the sword, and drove many with their captain into the sea, where they miserably perished.

In 1642, the Marquis of Hertford having come into Somerset to raise forces for the King, having been driven from Wells and Sherborne, took refuge with about 400 men at Minehead, September 19th, and having fortified himself "in a strong inn," endeavoured to obtain possession of Dunster Castle, then held by Mr. Luttrell for the Parlia-

ment. Mortified with the failure of this attempt, he crossed over from Minehead in a coal ship to Wales. Having afterwards surrendered to the King, Dunster became a most disagreeable neighbour to all the country round, and Minehead showed its joy on the fall of the castle in 1646, and "gave the ringers 4*s.* 8*d.*" when Dunster was yielded.

The *Ch.*, in the Upper Town, possesses some remarkable features, and is attractive from its striking position and fine Perp. W. tower. It is dedicated to St. Michael, who appears, in a shallow recess on the E. side of the tower, in the act of weighing souls, the Blessed Virgin standing by and preventing the efforts of Satan to depress the balance on his side. Another recess on the S. side enshrines a representation of the Eternal Father holding a crucifix. Within it is very wide, and has no chancel arch. It contains a monument, said to be of Bracton, the famous lawyer, but of much later date, and evidently that of a priest. It has been much mutilated, and the chalice in the hands of the figure is broken. According to Savage, when it was opened a skeleton was found in it, the skull of which had 2 rows of upper teeth, one within the other. The communion table is richly carved. The font is carved with figures in niches. The magnificent rood-loft still remains, the ascent to it being by the original stone staircase, which is well designed. The S. aisle presents the uncommon feature of a wooden arch. A new *Ch.*, from the late Mr. Street's designs, has been recently built in the centre of the town by the liberality of a lady. In the churchyard is an ancient cross on steps.

In the main street is a statue of Queen Anne, in alabaster, presented by Sir Jacob Bancks, a Swede by birth, who, holding a commission in the English navy, in 1696 married the rich widow of Colonel Francis Luttrell, and through her influence represented this borough in nine successive parliaments. This was formerly in the church.

The *Feathers Inn* is an old house, with an antique fireplace.

There are some picturesque old houses at Minehead, several of which have round chimneys. The ancient houses and cottages at Minehead and the adjacent villages are remarkable for the massiveness of the woodwork in which the outer doors are fixed.

Minehead contains a row of 11 small almshouses erected by Robert Quirck in 1630, as is testified by a curious inscription on a brass plate placed upon the front of the centre house. Near to these almshouses is the shaft of an ancient cross.

Remains of a submerged forest may be found in the sand at low tide.

Walks and Excursions from Minehead.

(a) The North Hill.

There is a beautiful view from the churchyard hill, called North Hill. The easiest path is by the E. of the church. Advancing from the top of the hill over the turf and through a gate, you come suddenly on the edge of a precipice,

with the sea 300 ft. below. The quay, pier, bay, and warren spread out like a map. The path descending on the l. joins the Greenaleigh road.

If the level top of the hill is pursued, at 1¼ m. a pretty combe runs down on the l. to the hamlet of Woodcombe, whence you may return to Minehead along the valley. But if you follow the road on the hill, you come to East Myne Farm, where a rough, descending path on the rt. branches off to *Grixy*, a most romantic gorge leading down to the sea. A good scramble is here necessary, but the trouble is well repaid, and, if care is taken, you can follow one of the sheep-tracks on the precipitous side of the hill, and so return to Greenaleigh Farm, passing a pretty glen called *Burgundy*, where are the remains of an ancient chapel. Greenaleigh Farm is deprived of the sun's rays 3 months in the year by the shadow of the hill. Here is a room for visitors and picnic parties. It is a pleasant walk of 1 m. back to the quay.

(b) To *Selworthy Beacon* and *village* and *Bratton* (about 8 or 9 m.). Keep straight along the summit of the North Hill, as in the last excursion, until the summit of Selworthy Beacon is reached (933 ft.), whence a fine view of the Severn, sea, and coast of Wales, of the Quantocks, Dunkery, and Horner Woods, will be obtained. A little lower down on the S. slope is a memorial hut to the late Sir T. D. Acland, from which there is a fine view of Exmoor. Near this is an earthwork known as Bury Castle. Keeping to the E. of this and following the stream, **Selworthy** will be reached.

The churchyard, in which stands a fine 14th-century cross, commands an unrivalled view of Dunkery and the valley between. The *Ch.* has good clustered pillars, a singularly ornamented roof, and a curious manor pew over the S. door. An ancient tithe-barn may be noticed on the way up the hill to the church. Up the steep ascent from the Porlock road, on the opposite side from the church, Sir T. D. Acland's *Free Cottages*, or almshouses, stand pleasantly at the foot of the plantations, through which paths cut afford delightful views.

On reaching the main road between Porlock and Minehead, turn to the l. and take the third turn on the l. to **Bratton**, where is

Bratton Court, now a farm, the birthplace of *Henry de Bracton*, a judge in the reign of Henry III., but chiefly distinguished by his treatise "De legibus et consuetudinibus Angliæ," our great authority for mediæval English law. This will be found a most beautiful walk. The house is an old timbered, quadrangular mansion, now ruthlessly modernized; but the "Judge's Chamber," traditionally said to have been Bracton's study, is still pointed out over the gateway.

(c) To *Dunster* (p. 468).

The walk described on p. 480 (c) may be reversed.

(d) To *Washford* and *Cleeve* (p. 462) by rail.

(e) To *Porlock* by coach (p. 489), from which Cloutsham, the Horner valley, and Dunkery may be visited (see pp. 492, 493).

(f) To *Dunkery*, *Cloutsham*, and *Horner*.

Cross Grabbist Hill to Wootton Courtenay, take the l. road at the triple fork beyond the village, and keep straight up to the summit of **Dunkery Beacon** (1707 ft.) (see p. 492). Descend to **Cloutsham** and follow the **Horner Water** to the Porlock road, and return by it (about 15 m.), or, instead of going down the Horner, keep Cloutsham well to the l., and follow the path to **Luccombe**, a charming village (see below), and thence by **Tivington** (see below) to the main road, and so to Minehead (about 12 m.)

(g) To *Winsford* and *Tarr Steps* (see page 500).

A long excursion of about 18 m. can be taken from Minehead or Dunster.

The rly. ceases at Minehead; the rest of the route to Porlock and thence to Lynton (20 posting miles) is by road. It is one of the most beautiful drives in the west of England, presenting scenery of the most varied character, with sea views of great extent. On each side of the road rise hills of varied outline, covered with heaths and ferns, and other moorland plants; whilst the rugged valley charms by its abundant woods, delightfully grouped over broken ground, and mingled with cornfields.

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3 m. l., in the hamlet of **Tivington**, is an ancient chapel and priest's house annexed. The view of Porlock Bay from the door of the chapel is fine.

3½ m. on the l. is the pretty village of **Luccombe**, 2 m. E. of Porlock, through which flows a stream which rises at Dunkery. The *Ch.* is a handsome building, and contains an ancient stone altar in the belfry and several interesting monuments of the *Byam* family, including one of the Rev. H. Byam, D.D., who was born in this parish, and was afterwards rector of it.

He was an ardent follower and faithful friend of Charles I., and assisted in raising troops in his favour, in which 4 of his sons were captains. He suffered not only the loss of all he possessed, but his wife and daughter, attempting to escape from their persecutors, were drowned in their passage to Wales. He himself attended Prince Charles as chaplain to the Island of Scilly, and thence to Jersey, and lived to see the restoration of the royal family.

A fine old cross stands at the E. end of the church. Opposite the church is a cottage with a curious ancient window, which should be examined from the inside.

4½ m. **Holnicote**, a hamlet of pretty creeper-bound cottages, deriving its name from *holegn* or *holen*, Anglo-Saxon for the holly. L. is the park of *Holnicote* (Sir Thomas Dyke Acland, Bart.); the house has been twice much injured by fire: in 1799 and again in 1851. It has been recently much enlarged. Its timbered slopes are seen in combination with the huge side of

Dunkery and a middle distance of hollow, wooded glens.

From Holnicote, passing *Brandish Street*, another hamlet, embowered by the rose and woodbine, the traveller descends into the vale of Porlock and soon crosses a mountain stream, the **Horner**, which flows from Dunkery by a romantic valley. *A ramble up this beautiful valley should, by all means, be taken. It is full of romantic scenery. A whole day may be well spent amidst its streams and woods. According to some authorities, this stream is said to derive its name from A.-S. *hwrner*, a snorer, on account of the sound of its waters; but Mr. Page, probably correctly, derives it from the Celtic *avon* or *aune* (water), applied to so many streams. A pathway to the rt., beyond the meeting of the 2 streams at the end of the valley, winds up to **Stoke Pero** (3 m. S. of Porlock), with its curious little *Ch.* and few scattered cottages. It is coupled with two neighbouring villages in the local rhymes:—

"Culbone, Oare, and Stoke Pero,
Parishes three no parson 'll go to,"

and

"Culbone, Oare, and Stoke Pero,
Three such places you 'll seldom hear o'."

5½ m. ***Porlock.** The cosy little Ship Inn has entertained among its guests the poet Southey, who here,

"By the unwelcome summer rain confined,"

composed a sonnet by the alehouse fire:—

"Porlock, thy verdant vale, so fair to sight,
Thy lofty hills, which fern and furze embrown,
Thy waters, that roll musically down
Thy woody glens, the traveller with delight
Recalls to memory."

Porlock, the "enclosed port," in a fertile vale about 1 m. from the sea, in an amphitheatre of hills, formed by the dark masses of Exmoor. It is a picturesque village, its thatched cottages clothed with roses and myrtles, and washed by the rapid waters of a stream which issues from a gorge in Dunkery.

In Saxon times it had a chase, and was considered a town of some importance, and on more than one occasion it was selected by the Danes for their piratical inroads. It was the scene of a more serious attack when Harold and his brother Leofwine, on their return from their banishment in Ireland, landed here with nine ships and formed a camp. Though they came as deliverers, their enterprise was looked on with suspicion by the men of Devon and Somerset, who met them in arms. After a severe conflict, in which "more than 30 good thanes and much other folks were slain, the exiles had the victory. Harold carried off goods, cattle, and men, and sailed off round the Land's End to meet Earl Godwin, his father." The remains of their camp are shown S. of the church.

Porlock gives name to a breed of small horned sheep. Their mutton is delicious, but they are hard to keep as they leap over every barrier.

The *Ch.* is dedicated to St. Dubritius, Bishop of Llandaff and Metropolitan of Caer Leon (d. 522), a fact indicating, like the dedication to St. Decuman at Watchet (see *ante*), that this part of Somersetshire was evangelized from South Wales. It is a long, weather-beaten building, chiefly of Perp. date, with E.E. remains

in the E. window and piscina. It has a S. aisle and W. tower, surmounted by a truncated shingled spire, "forlorn-looking and dilapidated." Its chief attraction is a very sumptuous altar-tomb beneath an elaborately ornamented canopy, now mutilated and awkwardly jambed into the easternmost arch of the aisle. The tomb supports the effigies of a knight and his lady, identified by the researches of Mrs. Halliday ("The Porlock Monuments," 1882) with John, fourth Baron Harington of Aldingham (d. 1417), and his wife, the Lady Elizabeth Courtenay (d. of the third Earl of Devon, afterwards wife of Lord Bonville of Chewton) (d. 1472), the founders of the adjoining chantry. Lord Harington is in complete armour, his head resting on his tilting-helmet, covered with a bascinet surrounded by a wreath richly sculptured with roses and leaves. He wears a cuirass, and a skirt of taces and scalloped flaps; a richly sculptured bawdrick encircles the hips; a belt, falling diagonally, carries a long sword, the hilt bearing the sacred monogram. The lady wears the mitred headdress, encircled by a coronet of fleur-de-lis, indicating her princely birth. She is clad in a mantle fastened by tasselled cordons, beneath which she wears the surcoat and kirtle, with an ornamented girdle. She has a double chain round her neck. On the N. side of the sacrarium is a very richly panelled altar-tomb, probably the base of the Easter sepulchre. Towards the W. end of the S. aisle are two round-headed E.E. recesses, one containing a cross-legged military effigy, supposed to be that of Sir Simon Fitz Roger, temp. Richard I. An ancient sacristy projects from the E. wall. The octagonal font is Perp. The churchyard contains the broken shaft of a cross, and a venerable yew-tree surrounded by a seat, also a dole-table near the N. side of the tower. A common country epitaph illustrates a peculiarity of the Somersetshire dialect:—

"As us am, so must you be;
Therefore prepare to follow Me."

1½ m. distant is the port or **quay**, usually called ✲ **Porlock Weir**. The port is formed by a pier built across a considerable tract of land overflowed by tide between a huge bank of pebbles and the base of the hill. The shore makes a deep curve, and is fringed by a barrier of pebbles between Porlock and Bossington, otherwise Orestone Point, 2 m.

Excursions.

(a) To **Dunkery Beacon**, the most elevated point of Exmoor and of Somersetshire, which rises at once from the vale of Porlock to a height of 1564 ft. above the sea, commanding a view which should be an object with every visitor to this neighbourhood. It is a dark brown moorland hill, "whose Celtic name has an appropriate sound among the remains of primeval times with which it is crowned."—*E. A. F.* Its heathery slopes, free of rocks, offer little impediment to its ascent, which may be accomplished riding, or even driving almost to the Beacon, in about 4½ m. from Porlock, by the hamlet of *Horner*, or by the secluded little

village of *Stoke Pero*. On the summit are remains of the hearths in which beacon-fires were formerly kindled, and which might have spread an alarm from the heights of Plymouth to those of the Malvern Hills, in Worcestershire, for both these points, although nearly 150 m. apart, are visible from Dunkery on a clear day. The horizon of this noble prospect has been calculated as 500 m., and as including in its panorama no less than 15 counties. Its leading features are the highlands hence to Lynton, distant Dartmoor, the Quantock and Mendip Hills, the Bristol Channel, and the long mountain ranges of Wales. By a walk across the moor you may descend upon Culbone or Ashley Combe, and so return to Porlock.

Another way is by the delightful hill slope of **Cloutsham**, one of the minor eminences which skirt Dunkery, rising from a waving sheet of woodland, just swelling into a forest, renowned as a "meet" of the staghounds. The wild red deer may often be seen from this point browsing amongst the fern, or wandering from covert to covert. The first "meet" is a great event, and takes place usually on the Tuesday nearest to August 12th. Then the rough roads are filled with carriages, and often as many as 200 horsemen join in the sport. Apart from this, it is perhaps the most beautiful spot in the moor. On the one side there is the broad, bleak, heather-covered side of Dunkery; on the other the beautifully wooded slopes of Sweeteny and Horner; and beyond, as in a framed picture, a glimpse of the Bristol Channel, with Wales in the far distance. A brook brawls below, and a combe creeps winding up the hillside. For variety of scenery Cloutsham is unsurpassed.

(b) To **Bossington** or **Selworthy Beacon**, the W. end of North Hill; the ridge, extending from Minehead, bounding Porlock Bay on the E. It is 933 ft. above the sea, and owes its exceeding beauty in great measure to the good taste of its proprietor, Sir Thomas Dyke Acland, who has planted it with irregular woods of fir, not marshalled into line by fences, but scattered over the hill with the genuine feeling of an artist. If pressed for time, the traveller may give the preference to Bossington over Dunkery; the view from it being the more beautiful. He should walk to it through **Bossington**, 1 m. distant. In this little hamlet are rare scenes for the painter —a swift stream, rude old cottages, an ancient walnut-tree, and as a background the hill-side, with its patches of fern, purple gullies of stones, dark green furze patches, and waving woods. Along the summit of the Beacon are numerous paths, here and there provided with seats, of which some are cut from the living rock, from which the visitor may enjoy at his leisure the marvellous beauty of the prospect. The entire sea-front of Exmoor lies in view to its termination at the Lynmouth Foreland, at one time of a dark blue, at another partially veiled by the light mists from the ocean. Nearer at hand are the wooded glens below Dunkery, with a stream glittering in one of them,

and above all the huge Beacon, with its dark brown sides. At the end of the hill, called **Orestone Point**, a craggy pathway descends to the beach, where the rocks are on a grand scale, and the strata curiously contorted. At the spot where you reach the shore there is a singularly shaped cavern formed in a curved cliff of slate.

At **Lynch**, a little hamlet adjoining Bossington, is an old chapel with a good roof, formerly used as a barn, but restored by Sir T. D. Acland.

(c) *Culbone*, 3 m., a hamlet placed like a nest in a nook of the coast, the habitat of *Asplenium septentrionale*. From Porlock Quay the road to it is equally romantic—a horse-path, now passable for carriages as far as Culbone, running midway along the steep slopes which descend to the sea, and throughout its course densely enveloped with coppice-wood. In 2 m. it reaches *Ashley Combe* (Baroness de Tainteignes), perched as it were upon a narrow shelf, in full view of Porlock Bay and the Welsh coast. An opening admits to a glen which is terminated by a most imposing amphitheatre chiselled in the moorside by 5 streams which rattle down its heathery slopes. Another m. from Ashley Combe brings the traveller to **Culbone** (anciently Kitnoe), where a rivulet has scooped a hollow in the hill. Deep in this recess nestles the little hamlet of rustic cottages and a tiny Gothic church, 33 ft. by 12 ft., with a Norm. font, "situated," says Warner, "in as extraordinary a spot as man, in his whimsicality, ever fixed on for a place of worship." The little plain on which it stands is not above ¼ acre in extent; it is 400 ft. above the beach, and on either side hemmed in by dark wooded hills, which tower to a height of 1200 ft. A road ascends from it to the moor, by which, if willing to prolong the excursion, you can return to Porlock.

(d) Those who stay for a few days at Porlock will find innumerable charming walks amongst the glens of Exmoor by following the courses of the Horner and other streams which flow down the valleys.

From Porlock to Lynton the traveller has the choice of 2 roads: the high-road over the moor, which is very steep, but by which the coach goes; or a more modern road called the "New Road," made by the late Colonel Blathwayt, which winds through the woods in a gradual ascent, by well-engineered zigzags, after the fashion of an Alpine pass. It is, however, considerably longer, and therefore not used by carriage-drivers, unless they have special orders. It is a good road, and commands a view which many travellers have considered as fine as any in the west of England. There is also a romantic horse-path which runs midway along the slopes of the coast from Porlock Quay to Countesbury, a village 2 m. short of Lynton. The latter passes by Culbone and Glenthorne (see *post*), and in and out of many

a pretty dingle, threading for the greater part of the distance a dense oak coppice. It is called a horse-path, but a rider must have good nerves for the journey.

From the Weir we ascend Porlock Hill by a steep road, which joins the new road above mentioned, after many zigzags, at about 1347 ft. above the sea-level. Having gained the summit, we must bid adieu to cultivation, and prepare to face the winds of an unsheltered waste, on which for many a mile runs the road at an elevation of some 1200 ft. above the sea, commanding the breadth and length of the Bristol Channel, and the Welsh mountains beyond.

12½ m. Here, on the dark moor, we reach the boundary of Devon and Somerset, a fence and a gate intended to keep the half-wild sheep and ponies in their respective counties.

In the depths of a long valley on the l. of the road from Porlock to Lynton lies the village of **Oare**. Through it runs the "**Badgeworthy Water**," which flows into the East Lyn, and is through its course the boundary between Devon and Somerset. Oare is the centre of the district so vividly described by Mr. Blackmore in his tale "Lorna Doone," and a visit to the "Doone Glen," the supposed stronghold of the old robber family, will well repay the trouble.

Rt., on the summit of a hill, is seen the camp of **Oldbarrow**, one of the most perfect in Devonshire, and far below it, in a deep dell by the sea,

L. is **Glenthorne**. By many a complicated zigzag a road descends to this charming retreat, where, some 50 ft. above the shore, we find a house and gardens embosomed in woods, which rise above them on the slopes to a height of 1100 ft. E. of the house a path and stream descend by a shadowy dingle to the beach, and a labyrinth of walks tracks the hill-side among rocks and old oaks, many of the trees twisted in fanciful shapes, and one in particular forming an archway over the path. The house, which is occasionally shown to strangers, contains many curiosities: antiquities from Greece and Italy, a collection of armour, rare cabinets, and among some pictures the "Spectre Ship," by *Severn*, in illustration of Coleridge's "Ancient Mariner." In the servants' hall there is a fireplace which tradition asserts once belonged to Cardinal Wolsey, and on Palermo Point, above the house, a group of marbles from Athens and Corinth.

15½ m. **Countesbury**. L. beyond this wild hamlet are the ramparts of an ancient camp commanding the ravine of **Waters' Meet**. The road now rapidly descends towards the gorge of **Lyndale** to

16 m. **Lynmouth** and **Lynton** ("Handbook for Devon").

EXMOOR, which the route has traversed from Porlock to Lynton, is a highland district still to a great extent uncultivated—a waste of dark hills and valleys, tracked by lonely streams It attains its

greatest elevation on the E., where **Dunkery Beacon** rises 1707 ft. above the sea; but on the W. its hills are of little inferior height, **Chapman Barrows** being 1572 ft., and **Span Head** 1610 ft. On its borders it is pierced by deep wooded ravines, of which the traveller has a magnificent example in Lyndale. The central part of this region, about 20,000 acres, formed the ancient **Forest of Exmoor**, for which an Act of enclosure was obtained in 1815 by the late John Knight, Esq., of Wolverley Hall, Worcestershire, who proposed to bring it under cultivation. With this object he encircled the whole forest with a ring-fence, and commenced building a castellated mansion at **Simonsbath**, but the speculation proved anything but a golden one. A considerable acreage has, however, been brought under cultivation, and this is now leased in separate farms by the proprietor of the forest, the principal drawbacks to success being the strong winds and chilly mists which prevail in so elevated a district. Extensive tracts, however, still remain, both in the forest and surrounding highlands, in a state of nature, delighting the eye by the grandeur of their unbroken outline, and the rich beauty of their colour; and here, over slopes of heather, interspersed with the dwarf juniper, cranberry, and whortleberry, roams the "Exmoor pony," a breed of the native English horse, and the red forest deer, which still makes its lair in the extensive covers on the moor-side. The farmer seemed at one time likely to be driven by the miner from his settlement on Exmoor. In 1851 a specimen of the white carbonate of iron was sent by Mr. R. Smith to the Great Exhibition. Its value suggested the expediency of a further search, and this led to the discovery of abundant iron lodes, including the hæmatites and other ores hitherto supposed peculiar to Staffordshire and Wales. Large districts of the moor were in the hands of 3 of the principal iron companies in the kingdom, viz., the Ulverstone of Lancashire, and the Dowlais, and South Wales. But the speculation failed, and the mining operations have ceased. Before visiting Exmoor, Mr. Blackmore's tale of "Lorna Doone" should be read for the old traditions it embodies, and its graphic descriptions.

To reach Simonsbath from **Dulverton** (Rte. 14) several roads may be taken, any of which will afford fine walks with excellent views. The following is a long but good walk: Follow the road up the river to the foot of Marsh Hill, where cross by a bridge. Take the first turn to rt.; the road, again reaching the river, runs by **Brewer's Castle**, one of a series of earthworks along the course of the Barle; a second, **Mounsey Castle** (from the Monceaux family), is near by on the other side of the river. The road runs along **Hawkridge Ridge** to Hawkridge village, where take the road opposite the church to ***Tarr Steps**, a very remarkable stone footbridge over the Barle, probably of Celtic origin. It is formed of piers of stones laid on one another, with large flat stones above forming

the path. There is a ford just above, and the whole forms a most delightful scene. From the steps push right up to the top of Winsford Hill. Close to the cross-roads is a most interesting *Romano-British monument, an upright stone inscribed in rude lettering with the words—

CARĀACI
NEPVS,

meaning the descendant of Caradog, Caratacus, or Caractus as the school-books incorrectly style him. Such stones are met with in Wales and Cornwall, and are assigned to the 5th or 6th centuries, but this is the only instance in Somerset. Keep now along the hill to Comer's Cross, where turn to l. to ✲**Withypool**, where leave the church on the l. and take the next turn to the l. The road passes **Cow Castle**, a circular earthwork, and reaches Simonsbath (about 16 m.).

To reach Simonsbath from **Lynton**, keep the road by Barbrook Mill and East Ilkerton to *Shallowford Farm*. Thence keep up by a wall for a m. to a gate, by which is a boundary stone, called *Sadler's Stone*. Follow the track past a barrow, known as *Woodbarrow*, to two gates, where the road should be crossed. Keep along to **Mole's Chamber**, formerly a morass, and said to be named after one Mole, who lost his life there, but now drained. Here the hill close by may be climbed to **Stonesbury Castle**, an earthwork at an elevation of 1528 ft., for the sake of the view. Returning to Mole's Chamber, turn to the l. and follow the road to the main road, where turn to the r. to Simonsbath (about 16 m.).

Simonsbath may also be reached from **South Molton** Stat., on the Devon and Somerset branch of the G.W. Rly. The road leads through ($3\frac{1}{2}$ m.) a well-wooded valley, watered by a tributary of the Mole, to **North Molton.** Thence it climbs a hill, from the summit of which a magnificent view is obtained. The road from this point to Simonsbath gives fine views of the Upper Barle.

✲**Simonsbath**, where is the seat of E. A. Knight, Esq., is a most romantic spot—a solitary settlement in a moorland valley, encircled by some fine old trees, originally planted as shelter to a rough house of entertainment which formerly stood here. The place consists of Mr. Knight's unfinished mansion, now a picturesque ruin, a small house adjoining it, occupied occasionally as a residence by the present lord of Exmoor, with a few other dwellings. In front the ground slopes to the Barle, whose foaming waters may be traced for some distance, glittering in a vista formed by wild, heathy hills; and in the bed of this stream lies the original *Simon's Bath*, a deep pool, in which, according to the legend, a noted outlaw, once the terror of these moors, was accustomed to bathe. From this central point Mr. Knight, at great expense, cut roads across the forest; E. to Red Deer, 2 m., and Exford 5 m.; S. to South Molton, 11 m.; W. to Challacombe, 6 m., and to Lynton, 9 m.

⁂ **Winsford** is a charming spot, where fishing may be had, and from which the country may be well explored. It may be reached from *Dunster* by taking the road through *Timberscombe* and *Cutcombe* to Coppleham Cross, where turn to the rt. up the Exe, about 11 m. From Winsford the Romano-British stone and Tarr Steps may well be visited, and the hills around will afford many fine walks. Or it may be reached from Dulverton by keeping the road up the Exe to Coppleham Cross and turning there to the l.

⁂ **Exford,** where are the kennels of the Devon and Somerset Staghounds, is another good centre, which may be reached from *Dunster viâ* Cutcombe, or from *Dulverton viâ* Winsford.

ROUTE 13.

BRIDGWATER TO WILLITON BY CANNINGTON, NETHER STOWEY (THE QUANTOCKS), STOKE COURCY, ST. AUDRIES, AND CROWCOMBE.

(*Road.* 2 *Rtes.*)

ROAD.	PLACES.
	Bridgwater.
4 m.	Cannington.
8½ m.	Nether Stowey.
10 m.	Dodington.
11 m.	Holford.
12½ m.	Putsham.
14 m.	West Quantoxhead.
17½ m.	Williton.

	Bridgwater.
3½ m.	Halswell.
5 m.	Enmore Castle.
10 m.	Cothelstone.
15 m.	Crowcombe.
16 m.	Lower Halsway.
17½ m.	Bicknoller.
19½ m.	Williton.

Bridgwater (Rte. 2). On this route there are 2 roads as far as Williton: one, 17½ m., passing the Quantocks by the sea; the other, 20 m., crossing these hills near their southern termination, and skirting their western slopes to Williton. They are both beautiful roads, but perhaps the latter is the more picturesque of the two. First for the former, the direct road by Nether Stowey.

4 m. **Cannington.** Beyond this village, on the rt., are *Brymore House* (H. H. Pleydell-Bouverie, Esq., D.L., J.P.), the ancient seat

of the Pym family, from whom was descended John Pym, the famous member of the Long Parliament, and *Cannington Park*, now occupied as a grazing farm, where there is a remarkable outcrop of carboniferous limestone. According to Bp. Clifford, this is the site of the battle of Cynuit, where the "heathenmen" fought with the English under Alfred, and at first overcame them. At *Cannington* a priory of Benedictine nuns was founded, adjacent to the present church, in 1138, by Robert de Courcy, sewer or chief butler to the Empress Maud. The tradition that "Fair Rosamund" was born in this parish and educated at the nunnery may be safely rejected. The manor and lands were granted by the Crown in 1672 to Thomas, Lord Clifford, and still belong to the Clifford family. In 1807 a sisterhood of French Benedictines was established in the *Court-house* adjacent to the church, but has since been removed to Rugeley, in Staffordshire. It is now occupied by a Roman Catholic industrial school and orphanage. It has a long low front, with square-headed stone mullioned windows, and a modern Corinthian chapel, containing a memorial altarpiece and window to the late Lord Clifford of Chudleigh. The low buttressed wall of the conventual enclosure remains picturesquely draped with ivy. The *Ch.* is a Perp. building, very short and lofty, with a single roof embracing nave, aisles, and chancel. It should be seen from the E., when the effect of height is very striking. The same characteristic may be observed in the tall square tower, which strikingly shows the value of a blank story. Within the lofty, well-proportioned arcades cannot fail to command admiration. There are some sepulchral memorials to the Cliffords, and very rich parcloses at the ends of the aisles. There is neither clerestory nor chancel arch. On the outside, beneath the very fine, lofty 5-light E. window, are some fine consecration crosses. There is an ancient *manor house* known as *Street Farm*, belonging to Lord Cavan, in which there is a very small domestic chapel, with just room for the priest and acolyte, preserving its piscina, aumbry, and remains of its altar, commanded from the living-rooms by three squints. The steps of the winding staircase are fashioned of single trunks of oak.

On the l., ¼ m., *Blackmoor Farm*, an interesting specimen of a small mediæval manor house, in good preservation. The hall, now divided into two stories, occupies the centre, with a projecting porch. The chapel is in the N. wing, having the usual two-storied arrangement at the W. end. Within there are 2 stone staircases, one in front leading to 3 arched doorways, communicating respectively with the gallery, the solar, and the chapel, and a newel staircase in the rear. The S. wing has been destroyed.

The views of the Channel and the Welsh coast, under a green arch of larch boughs, stretching horizontally over the road, are very beautiful as you approach.

8½ m. ✻ **Nether Stowey**, the birthplace of Parsons, one of the most active of the seminary

priests during the period of the penal laws against Roman Catholicism. He was born 1546, and published, under the name of Doleman, the famous "Conference about the Succession to the Crown of England." It was also for some time the residence of *Samuel Taylor Coleridge*, his cottage being marked by a tablet which states that he occupied it from 1797-1800.

"And now, beloved Stowey, I behold
Thy church tower, and methinks the four huge elms
Clustering, which mark the mansion of my friend;
And close beside them, hidden from my view,
Is my own lonely cottage, where my babe
And my babe's mother dwell in peace."

Among the woods of the neighbouring hills are the valleys of the *Seven Wells*, and *Hunter's Combe*, beautiful scenes, rendered classic ground by the genius of this chance visitor and that of his companion *Wordsworth*, who in 1797 occupied a house at *Alfoxden* (we preserve Wordsworth's spelling; the name is really Alfox-*ton*).

Many of Wordsworth's "Lyrical Ballads," and most of Coleridge's poems, were written at Alfoxden and Stowey. Among these were "Peter Bell" and the "Ancient Mariner," the latter of which was composed during a walking tour of Coleridge and Wordsworth along the Quantocks by Watchet to Minehead, Porlock, and Lynton in Nov., 1797.

"Upon smooth Quantocks' airy ridge we roved,
Unchecked we loitered 'mid her sylvan courts;
Thou in bewitching words, with happy heart,
Didst chaunt the vision of that Ancient Man,
The bright-eyed Mariner, and rueful woes
Didst utter of the Lady Christabel."
Wordsworth, "Prelude."

Coleridge took up his residence at Nether Stowey in 1796 ("sanctum et venerabile nomen," rich by so many associations and recollections), "in order to enjoy the society of his dear and honoured friend T. Poole, and to have leisure for the study of ethics and psychology, and the foundations of religion and morals." He was in the habit of preaching for Dr. Toulmin at the Unitarian chapel at Taunton. He provided for his scanty maintenance by writing verses for a London morning paper. This was the period of the true manhood of his poetical life, during which he wrote his "Remorse." In June, 1797, Wordsworth and his sister removed to Alfoxden, and here, in conjunction with Coleridge, he produced the "Lyrical Ballads." Among the pieces written here were "We are Seven," "The Idiot Boy," "Goody Blake," etc. He speaks of it as "a very pleasant and productive time of his life." "Wherever we turn," writes Miss Wordsworth, "we have woods, smooth downs, and valleys with small brooks running down them through green meadows hardly ever intersected with hedgerows, but scattered over with trees. The hills that cradle these valleys are either covered with fern, or bilberries, or oak woods. Walks extend for miles over the hill-tops, the great beauty of which is their wild simplicity." Alfoxden was the scene of the famous picnic party of the 2 Wordsworths, Coleridge, and Cottle, when, their provisions consisting of bread, cheese, brandy, and lettuces, the cheese was stolen by a beggar, the brandy bottle was broken by Coleridge's awkwardness, and they were reduced to the lettuces and bread without salt. They had to leave Alfoxden from suspicion of being hatchers of sedition. A Government spy with a

long nose, who was sent down to watch them, thought they were talking of him as "Spinoza." "Coleridge was believed to have little harm in him, for he was a crackbrained, talking fellow; but that Wordsworth, they said, is either a smuggler or a traitor, and means mischief. He never speaks to anyone, haunts lonely places, walks by moonlight, and is always *booing* about by himself." The agent refused to give them a lease of the Alfoxden house, and they started for Germany, Sept., 1798.

Above Nether Stowey are some remarkable entrenchments of the *castle*, now entirely destroyed, once the residence of James, fourteenth Baron Audley, one of the leaders in the Cornish insurrection, 1497, executed on Tower Hill.

In the *Ch.* of **Spaxton**, 3 m. S.E., is an altar-tomb, possibly of one of the De la Hulles, and some very good bench-ends; one is known as "the fuller's panel," representing a fuller engaged in his work. The alms-chest is very curious. Near the village is **Holwell Cavern**, 127 ft. in length, partly excavated in the grauwacke slate, and encrusted with crystals of white arragonite, here and there tinged with a delicate hue of purple. A *copper mine* was formerly worked at *Dodington*. At **Over Stowey** is *Quantock Lodge*, the seat of E. J. Stanley, Esq., M.P., built by the late Lord Taunton, whose daughter married Mr. Stanley, and commanding a fine view of the Channel.

Over Stowey is a good starting-point for exploring the Quantock range, a district too little known, which will well reward the pedestrian for his trouble by its magnificent views and unrivalled air. The high ground is a heathy moorland, the flanks seamed with romantic woody combes. On the hill above Stowey is a fine earthwork, *Danesborough Camp* (1000 ft.), the vallum of which includes about 10 acres. It was no doubt of Celtic origin, but may have been afterwards used by the Romans.

2 m. rt., 9½ m. from Bridgwater, is **Stogursey** (more properly Stoke Courcy), named from its former lords, the De Courcys, the remains of whose moated castle may still be seen. Fulk de Breauté, the second husband of Alice de Redvers, daughter of William de Courcy, fortified and garrisoned the manor house, and made it a stronghold of robbers. It was dismantled by the express order of the Justiciar, Hubert of Burgh. It was taken and burnt by William, Lord Bonville, brother-in-law of the Earl of Warwick, soon after the first battle of St. Albans, and has ever since lain in ruins. The remains of the castle are very small; only traces of the bridge, the stumps of the two towers commanding the entrance, the site of the round keep tower, and the sallyport remain. The castle mill is still in use. The stream that worked it served the moat. A member of this family, John de Courcy, was the first to subdue the province of Ulster, of which he was created earl. In this neighbourhood a sanguinary conflict occurred in 845 between the Danes and Saxons.

when the latter, led by the Bishop of Sherborne, succeeded in driving the pirates to their ships. The *Ch.* is a large and interesting building, containing Norm. and Trans. work, which has been restored by Mr. Norton. The body was rebuilt temp. Henry VII. The S. transept, otherwise the "Chapel of our Lady of Pity," is the burial-place of the Verneys of Fairfield, and contains 2 recumbent effigies, one of John Verney, the last but one male representative of the family, clad in complete armour, temp. Henry VI., on a very rich altar-tomb, with figures in niches. The N. transept was dedicated to S. Erasmus. The tower is central and oblong in plan, and has a leaden spire. Stoke Courcy was an alien priory, a cell to the abbey of L'Onlay, in Normandy, to which it was given temp. Henry II. The Early Norm. tub-font has been recovered and replaced. The cross in the churchyard is an ancient example remodelled.

About 1 m. W. is **Fairfield House,** a mansion of the 16th century, commenced by Sir Thomas Palmer (d. 1583), and finished by his grandson of the same name, surrounded by an extensive park and grounds.

10 m. **Dodington Court** is a fine example of an Elizabethan manor house, with a long gabled façade and projecting porch. The hall has a fine roof of dark oak, and preserves its screen and minstrel gallery, and the date 1581 on the Renaissance chimney-piece, which is not in its original place. The withdrawing-room has a curious arabesque plaster cornice; adjoining it is the oriel or ladies' room.

12 m. rt. **Stringston Church** has a tall, red-tiled broach spire, and walls covered with plaster. On the S. side is a very beautiful 14th-century canopied cross, about 15 ft. high. On the E. face is the Crucifixion, on the W. our Lady and Child, on the S. an armed knight, on the N. a bishop in act of benediction.

11 m. **Holford.** On the N. side of the church stands a late 13th-century cross, on the shaft of which a male figure is carved. In a commanding and most beautiful position, *Alfoxden House* (W. A. Rixon, Esq.).

2½ m. rt., on the sea-shore, is the little village of **Kilve,** Southey's "Kilve by the green sea," Wordsworth's "Kilve's delightful shore." Kilve *Ch.* is a small, plain aisleless building, with a rude tower, grouping well with some remains of a chantry adjoining.

1 m. W. is **East Quantoxhead,** where is one of the most interesting *manor houses* in the county. Its present owner, Mr. G. F. Luttrell, is the lineal descendant of Ralph Paganel, who held it in the time of William the Conqueror. It contains some plaster mantelpieces in alto-relief, the earliest dated 1614.

12½ m. **Putsham.** Beyond this village the road ascends the slope of the Quantock Hills, when the traveller, by a backward glance, may behold, spread over a vast distance, the hazy levels of Bridg-

water, the range of the Mendips, the truncated cone of Brent Knoll, the glistening sea with its rocky islets of the Holmes, and the magnificent coast of Wales.

14 m. **West Quantoxhead**, on a spur of the hills, is **St. Audries**, an ancient property of the Mallets (Sir Alexander Fuller Acland Hood, Bart.). On rt. are the home-park, sloping to the shore, and the house, which, seated on the eastern point of Minehead Bay, commands the mountainous distance of Exmoor in connection with the sea, a view most charming; l. is the deer-park, with its ferny brakes and wooded heights. In the grounds stands the *Ch.*, rebuilt in 1857 by Sir Alexander A. Hood, to the S. of which are the steps, socket, and part of the shaft of a cross. The road now descends the western side of the Quantocks, unfolding the landscape in the direction of Exmoor.

17½ m. **Williton** (Rte. 12).

The longer road from Bridgwater to Williton runs for above 5 m. through an undulating country, passing on the l.

3½ m. *Halswell House*, seat of H. M. Kemeys-Tynte, Esq., D.L., J.P., and rt.

5 m. *Enmore Castle* (Rte. 2), formerly the property of the earls of Egmont, and now of T. P. Broadmead, Esq., D.L., J.P., when it ascends the Quantock Hills, rising to a view of the greater part of Eastern Somersetshire. Having gained the summit, about 1000 ft. above the sea, it proceeds for 1½ m. on a level, running amid wild plantations of fir which sweep to the valley, and passing on the l. *Broomfield Hall* (R. E. Price, Esq., J.P.), a place of interest in scientific history as the scene of the supposed creation of the "Acarus Crossii" by "Philosopher Crosse," who resided here. **Broomfield Church** is Perp., with some fine carved oak benches. In the churchyard S. are the socket and mutilated shaft of a cross of the 13th century. The road then begins a very beautiful descent on the western side, where the traveller is deeply embowered in a tall beech wood, through which he sees by glimpses a dark romantic dell and the Grecian mansion of **Cothelstone Park**, built 1818 (Charles E. J. Esdaile, Esq., D.L., J.P.).

10 m. at the foot of the hill the road passes the manor house of **Cothelstone**, now a farmhouse, rt. (Rte. 12). Further to the rt. is *Bagborough House*, a seat of the Pophams (Mrs. Fenwick-Bisset).

13½ m. the road crosses a small stream which descends from **Will's Neck**, the summit of the Quantock Hills, 1261 ft. above the level of the sea. The scenery on either side is delightful, particularly on the l., where there are fir woods and *Willet Tower* rising beyond them.

15 m. **Crowcombe**, a romantic little village under the escarpment of the Quantocks, commanding the hilly country to the W., and in the distance *Willet Tower*, and a straight avenue drive to it through a wood. The

place owes its neat appearance, in great measure, to the Carews, whose mansion of *Crowcombe Court* (Hon. R. C. Trollope) and its hanging groves appear on the rt. At the entrance from Williton the pretty creeper-clad cottages of the village are seen in combination with the dark height of Will's Neck.

The objects of interest here are a sculptured *cross* in the churchyard, another by the roadside, and the pictures and curiosities in the seat of the Carews.

Crowcombe Manor had been given to the see of Winchester by Gytha, wife of Earl Godwin, but was alienated by William the Conqueror to the Earl of Mortaign. One of his descendants, Roger, one of the barons of Runnymede, gave it to the priory of Studeley, Devon, towards the clothing of the nuns. In the churchyard is a very beautiful 14th-century *cross*, sculptured with the figures of St. John the Baptist, a bishop, and a female in a monastic habit. The *village cross*, of the 14th century, has a slender shaft of very graceful proportions, 13 ft. high. The *Ch.* (restored 1870) is Perp., and contains good oak seats, bearing the date 1534, and in a chapel to the N. monuments to the Carews. The pulpit, screen, and bench-ends have good carving; the octagonal font exhibits crowned and mitred figures in prayer. The spire was destroyed by lightning 1735.

Crowcombe Court (Hon. R. C. Trollope, Mrs. Trollope having succeeded to the property on the death of her brother, Mr. Carew, in 1805) is of red brick, with portico and wings, built in a semicircular form. Among the pictures and other works of art are:—In the *front hall:* Mr. Palmer, by *Cornelius Jansen;* full-lengths of Charles I. and his queen, *Vandyck;* Sir George Carew, *Zucchero.* The *staircase:* the family of Erasmus, *Holbein.* The carved balustrade and the Carew arms on the ceiling will be noticed. The *library:* Charles II. as a child; the Duke of Richmond, *Vandyck. Drawing-room:* Vesuvius, *G. Poussin;* Offering of the Wise Men, *Rubens;* Falls of Tivoli, *Rosa di Tivoli;* Narcissus, *N.* and *G. Poussin;* Rachel at the Well, *Carlo Maratti;* St. Agnes, *Carlo Dolce;* The Circumcision, *Leonardo da Vinci. Dining-room:* a Polish general, *Rembrandt;* Sir Francis Drake, *C. Jansen;* Rembrandt, by himself; Duke of Norfolk, Nelson, author of the "Fasts and Festivals," *Sir Godfrey Kneller;* General Monk, *Vandyck;* Rembrandt's mother; and Miss Carew, who founded the charity for the Crowcombe boys. *Schoolroom:* Sir T. Carew, who built Crowcombe; his 2 wives; Sir John and Lady Wyndham, and other family portraits. The *oak passage*, fitted as a museum with stuffed birds, etc.; family portraits; cabinets and doors of carved black oak. The *oak room*, entirely of carved black oak, excepting the floor and ceiling. It contains a miscellaneous collection of curiosities, and some pictures, among them 3 of Charles II.'s beauties, a Miss Carew, and Bampfylde Carew, called the King of the Gipsies; 2 pieces of tapestry; old chairs,

one decorated with the head of Henry II.

The park is very varied and beautiful. A network of walks and drives penetrates the woods, and leads to the ferny heights of the hill by a ravine or glen, darkly shadowed by oak and beech, and by silver firs 12 ft. in circumference. Beneath their spreading branches enormous laurels extend their arms in every direction. Altogether there is something very mountain-like and wild in this great wood. In its deepest recesses leaps a cascade, among ruins of an arch and chapel, built of stones from the chapel at Halsway, artificial, but happily placed.

A road runs directly across the Quantocks from Crowcombe to Bridgwater, meeting the high-road at Nether Stowey. The distance is about 12 m. You should ascend this road a little way for the sake of a superb prospect over the entire hill country on the border of Exmoor. The 2 towered hills seen rt. and l. are Dunster and Willet. The road is steep and romantic.

Will's Neck, about 2 m. S.E., is the highest summit on these hills, being 1261 ft. above the sea. Its ascent is a favourite excursion with the inhabitants of Bridgwater and Taunton.

Proceeding on our route—

16 m. **Lower Halsway**. ¼ m. to the rt. is a curious *manor house*, traditionally stated to have been a hunting-lodge of Cardinal Beaufort. The long, low front has a pinnacled entrance tower at each end and one of greater elevation in the middle, flanking a lofty double bay-window. There are some remains of good ceilings within. Some of the gargoyles are very quaint. **Hurley Beacon** here raises its dark head; the slopes are finely wooded with beech and fir.

17½ m. **Bicknoller**, between 2 gullies in the Quantock Hills. The *Ch.*, of very pleasing outline, has a low, square tower. The E. gable and window, Perp., are rather elaborate. The richly carved bench-ends deserve notice, and there is a fine screen, dated 1726. In the churchyard are a fine yew and a late 14th-century cross. If on foot, climb aloft here for a view; there is a small encampment on the slope known as Trendle Ring, probably a *castra æstiva*, but go, if possible, to the barrow on the summit, **Thorncombe Barrow**, from which you may see on the one side the Bay of Bridgwater, on the other that of Minehead, the Welsh coast, the entire scarp of Exmoor, and the moor itself, the whole range of the Blackdowns, with the Wellington Monument, and far into Devonshire. Opposite are the woods of Nettlecombe, and S. of them Willet Tower.

1 m. rt, at the foot of the hills, *Weacombe House*, l. the village of **Sampford Brett**, and away in the distance the ranges beyond Dunster and the huge Dunkery Beacon.

19½ m. **Williton** (Rte. 12).

ROUTE 14.

TAUNTON TO DULVERTON AND BARNSTAPLE BY MILVERTON AND WIVELISCOMBE.

(G. W. Rly.)

RAIL.	PLACES.
	Taunton.
2 m.	Norton Fitzwarren.
6¼ m.	Milverton.
9¼ m.	Wiveliscombe.
14 m.	Venn Cross.
17½ m.	Morebath.
21 m.	Dulverton.

Taunton (Rte. 2). This line passes through a superb country between Milverton and the border of Devonshire, and again between Bampton and Dulverton.

2 m. **Norton Fitzwarren** (Rte. 2).

6¼ m. ✲**Milverton** (Pop. 1562), a small but ancient market town in a deep combe or dell; the *Ch.* stands on an eminence overlooking it. W. are high and steep hills, mostly cultivated to their summits. Milverton is a place of little note now, except for beauty of position, but it had once a considerable business in the woollen trade. It was the birthplace of *John of Milverton*, a vehement opponent of the doctrines of Wickliff (d. 1480), and of *Dr. Thomas Young* (b. 1773), who first established the undulatory theory of light and penetrated the obscurity of the Egyptian hieroglyphics.

Milverton *Ch.* is a very fine building, and was restored 1850. It is Perp., of less ornate character than is usual in the large churches of Somersetshire. On the W. face of the tower, as at Glastonbury Tor, is a mutilated bas-relief of St. Michael (to whom it is dedicated) and Satan weighing souls; on the E. face a woman milking a cow. The interior has a character of severe grandeur. The nave is very wide and without clerestory; the arcades have large pointed arches upon octagonal pillars. The greater part of the original carved bench-ends remains, the work being of remarkable excellence, but others appear to be of cinquecento work. On one of the benches are carved the arms of Henry VIII., and amongst other rude devices is an "aspergillum" for sprinkling holy water, commonly taken for a pestle and mortar. The chancel is stalled, the sacrarium laid with encaustic tiles, and many of the windows filled with modern coloured glass. The font is Norm. The porch is unusually placed at the W. end of the S. aisle.

The *churchyard* is a fine point of view, commanding the Quantock Hills and the outliers of Exmoor. In it may be seen the rudely sculptured base of a cross.

The archidiaconal residence near the church, now the vicarage, was built in the reign of Henry VIII., and is said to have been a country residence of Cardinal Wolsey. It has a door-case of solid oak, worth notice. There is a beautiful arch in one of the rooms and a portion of an original oak ceiling. An urn containing

a number of Roman coins, was found in this parish in 1847.

2 m. rt. *Castle Hill* is the site of a camp, now planted with trees, in which Roman coins have been found in large numbers.

9¼ m. ✻**Wiveliscombe** Stat., commonly pronounced "Wilscombe" (Pop. 1428). This is a market town of some size embosomed among swelling hills, on the side of one of which it hangs, with its feet in a valley. The manor afterwards became a royal domain, and was granted by Edward the Confessor to the cathedral of Wells, whose bishops had a palace here. The *Ch.*, rebuilt 1829, still gives name to a prebend of Wells. It contains in the S. aisle a tomb, with recumbent effigies, to Humphrey Wyndham (*ob.* 1622) and his wife. There are remains of an ancient *cross* in the churchyard, with the figure of an ecclesiastic on the W. side of the shaft, perhaps John Drokensford, Bishop of Bath and Wells, who built a palace here in the early part of the 14th century. Some of the windows of this house are now in the schoolhouse. *Abbotsfield* (W. M. Smith, Esq., J.P.) is a very conspicuous house on the side of the hill, built from the designs of Owen Jones.

There are extensive slate quarries in the neighbourhood. Mr. Hancock's brewery is one of the largest in the west of England. W. of the town rise the lofty heights of **Main Down** and **Heydon Down**, links in a chain of hills prolonged eastward from the great mass of Exmoor called **Molland Down.** To penetrate these hills and the deep valleys which intersect them, or to angle in their trout streams, are the attractions held out by Wiveliscombe. A view of the place may be obtained from the road to Bampton, and every visitor should see the first valley on that road, 3 m. distant.

The town stands on the junction line of the new red sandstone and Devonian, or old red, rocks, the latter comprising the district of Exmoor.

[The high-road to Bampton is a very pleasant one, commanding beautiful views.

At the outset we climb a hill 1½ m. in length and look down upon Wiveliscombe and the surrounding country, which may be seen to yet greater perfection from the summit to the rt., together with the Quantock and Blackdown ranges, Willet Tower on its distant mount, the vales and hills beyond Taunton, and directly to the N. the huge side of Main Down, clothed with sombre fir woods.

From this height a long descent leads to the hamlet of

3¼ m. **Waterrow**, situated deep in a combe by the rocky bed of the **Tone**, here closely shut in by soaring hills prettily broken by wooded rifts and hollows. An old bridge spanning the stream, a cottage full of timbers and angles, and a scarred slate rock on the hill-side, form a scene for a painter. Firs and other trees are thickly grouped over the dell, and adjacent is a valley down which the river flows from its source on Brendon.

On the l., in the parish of **Bathealton** (3 m. S.E. of Wivelis-

combe Stat.; the *Ch.* was rebuilt in 1854), is a well-defined camp, called the "Castles," in which Roman coins have been found. A few years since the fosse was unploughed and full of furze or trees, but now improved agricultural skill is destroying this interesting feature. From the camp are beautiful and extensive views, stretching from the Quantocks on the N. to the hills near Honiton to S., Hamdon Hill, near Yeovil, as well as Mendip, to the E., and over the vale of Taunton, etc.

4¼ m. The traveller here reaches the border of the county at *Venn Cross Stat.*, on a watershed, from which he gains a view forward of the hills about Bampton; rt. and l. are narrow lanes, the one leading to **Chipstable**, in Somerset, the other to **Clayhanger**, in Devon. His onward course is somewhat lonely, by an open valley with pleasant heights to the rt., to

8¼ m. **Shillingford**, and a bridge over the *Batherm.* Rt. is a distant view of *Lower Timewell House.* From this bridge by a kind of defile we enter *Bampton.*]

Returning to the rly., we reach 14 m. **Venn Cross**, on a projecting horn of Devonshire, through which county the rly. runs for six miles to

17½ m. **Morebath**, the stat. for Bampton (see "Handbook for Devon").

21 m. **Dulverton** Stat., 2 m. S. of the town of

✲ **Dulverton** (Pop. 1265).

The *Ch.* was rebuilt 1855, with the exception of the tower, and is a fine structure adorned with much stained glass.

The town is seated in an amphitheatre of hills, wooded with large coverts for the red deer. An impetuous torrent, the Barle, dashes past it under a bridge of 5 arches, and springing over rocky ledges, is lost to view among the trees. To the N. stretches the lonely district of Exmoor, closing the approaches very completely on that side, and limiting the little trade and traffic of the place. To an artist or sportsman Dulverton has many attractions. The scenery is beautiful, the stag and fox hunting on Exmoor of a very exciting description. The deer are hunted every season (the hounds being kept either at Exford or East Anstey); but they are hardly so numerous as they were some years ago. Their antlers and skins will be observed in the inn.

At Dulverton you should notice the views from the churchyard and bridge. You should walk down the path below the bridge, and explore the upward course of the river; and, above all, you should ascend to an open spot, called **Mount Sydenham**, in the wood above the church. The prospect it commands is truly magnificent. Towards the N. you will look up the valley of the Barle, a wild and solitary valley, where no road has yet penetrated beyond a certain point. Its sides are the wooded coverts of the red deer, the heights above them naked heaths. You will command the windings

of the river in long perspective for many miles. A short but delightful excursion is to **Higher Combe**, returning by the Barle. This will give you some idea of the indescribable beauty of the moorland glens. You will gain views over the greater part of Devon and of Somerset, and descry the mountainous mass of Dartmoor on the distant horizon.

[Exbridge, 2 m. S., is a hamlet in a broad vale or basin near the stat., at the junction of the Exe and Barle, which flow united under the bridge in a turbulent stream, 40 ft. or 50 ft. broad. It is much frequented by anglers, the Exe and the Barle being notable trout streams. You should bestow a glance upon the view from the bridge.

The valley of the Barle is one mass of foliage, through which run the high-road and river in company, the glittering surface of the water being seen between the trunks of the trees. Rt. are the lovely woods of *Pixton Park*, the seat of the Earl of Carnarvon, by whom it has recently been much improved. The walk from the station to Dulverton through the park is full of picturesque beauty. On the opposite hill is a heronry.**]**

Those who are bound to Lynton may post to it from Dulverton over the forest, but they will find the road hilly. For a pedestrian or equestrian it is an interesting route; for a carriage the preferable one would be by the Dunster road as far as **Timberscombe**, a drive of great beauty, passing the site of **Barlynch Abbey**, now an entire ruin, and then winding along upward through the wooded valley of the Exe. 6 m. on the rt. is the white tower of **Exton Church**, visible from the valley; and 1 m. on l. is Winsford, a pretty and secluded village, where there is an excellent inn, much patronized by anglers. Before reaching **Cutcombe**, the road ascends the ridge of hills of which Dunkery is the highest point. At Cutcombe is a small public-house called "Rest and be Thankful." From this spot Dunkery can be reached with ease. From Timberscombe a cross-road leads to Porlock. The distance by the forest from Dulverton to Lynton is 23 m. (charged 26 post), an easy walk on a summer's day. The *Red Deer* is the half-way house, and a good road runs from Red Deer to *Simonsbath* (see *ante*) and Lynton

Near Dulverton are *Pixton House* (Lord Carnarvon), *Combe*, an old mansion 1 m. S. (Mrs. Chapman), and *Hollam House* (Mrs. A. St. J. Mildmay), *Northmoor House* (the Misses Kay), just above the town. Dulverton is 17 m. from Dunster, a beautiful drive, 15 m. from South Molton post, and rather more by an ancient trackway, which passes, 5 m. N.W., **Tarr Steps**, a very wild but most charming spot, where a rude stone bridge crosses the *Barle* (see Rte. 12).

The town, says Fuller, was the birthplace of *Humphrey Sidenham* — "silver-tongued Sidenham"—an eloquent preacher, who died 1650.

Further excursions from Dulverton will be found in the account of Exmoor (Rte. 12).

At Dulverton station is the junction of the North Devon and Exeter line.

The rly. again enters Devonshire and proceeds to

$24\frac{3}{4}$ m. **East Anstey.**
$29\frac{3}{4}$ m. **Bishop's Nympton.**
$34\frac{1}{4}$ m. **South Molton.**
$37\frac{1}{2}$ m. **Filleigh.**
$40\frac{1}{2}$ m. **Swimbridge.**
$44\frac{1}{2}$ m. **Barnstaple.**

(See "Handbook to Devon.")

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about 8 p.m. (The above every day except Sunday.) End of June to end of October thrice weekly to Dulverton, leaving 9.30 a.m. and returning about 8 p.m. End of October to April Thursday from Lynton to catch 1 p.m. up train, returning 3.25 p.m.
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Beautiful Verandah and large Garden at the back of the House.
Advantageous arrangements made with families intending a longer stay.
Highly recommended.

HEIDELBERG.

HOTEL SCHRIEDER.

FIRST-CLASS HOTEL, nearest to the Station. Large Garden with covered Verandah. All Visitors' Rooms face the Garden. Oldest Hotel in the town, entirely renovated. Rooms from 2·50 to 5 marks, including light and attendance. Arrangements made for prolonged stay.

O. SUTTERLIN, new Proprietor.

HEIDEN SWITZERLAND, Ct. Appenzell,

2700 feet above sea-level.

Beautiful village, overlooking the lake of Constance. Exquisite health resort. Bracing Climate.

FREIHOF & SCHWEIZERHOF

FIRST-CLASS HOTELS.

Extensive own grounds, shady park, wonderful view. Affords every home comfort. First rate cuisine. Sanitary arrangements. Lawns for tennis, croquet, bowls. Dances. Casino with daily concerts. English service. Goats' Whey. Baths and Hydropathic Establishment. Electricity. Massage. Gymnastics. Milk from own farm.

Terms moderate. Pension. Advantageous arrangements. Prospectus, illustrated. Season, May—October.

Propr. ALTHERR-SIMOND.

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HOTEL D'ANGLETERRE.

First-Class House, situated in the centre of the Town.

BATHS IN THE HOUSE. OMNIBUS AT THE STATION.

CENTRAL HEATING APPARATUS.

50 Rooms and Saloons fitted up with every comfort of modern times. English Newspapers.

C. HEERDT.

INTERLAKEN.

FINEST SITUATION. ELEVATORS.

MARVELLOUS ALPINE SCENERY.

GRAND HOTEL Victoria.

First-class. Unrivalled for its great comfort. 400 Beds. Electric Light throughout. Lawn Tennis Grounds. Concerts. Balls. First-class **Restaurant.**

ED. RUCHTI, *Administrateur.*

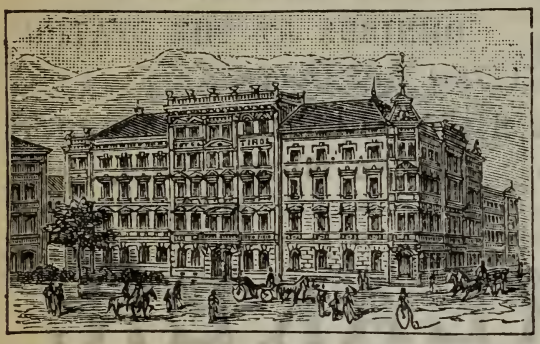
GRAND HOTEL Jungfrau.

First-class. Electric Light throughout. 300 Beds. Rooms from Three Francs. First-class **Restaurant. Grill-room.**

ED. SEILER, *Manager.*

INNSBRUCK.

Thirty-one hours from London, via Arlberg, to Innsbruck. Through tickets and luggage registered through. Twenty-three hours from Paris.



THE BEAUTIFUL AND SHELTERED situation of INNSBRUCK renders it a very agreeable place of residence all the year round. In spring as well as in autumn it is especially to be recommended as a stopping place between the different watering places. It is also to be recommended after a sojourn at the sea-side.

INNSBRUCK is the centre from which many splendid excursions can be made in every direction, and of any length. Attractive walks in the immediate neighbourhood of the town and the different elevations.

The climate in Winter, dry, strengthening, sunny, free from cold winds and fogs, has attracted many visitors of late years, and among those who have found the greatest relief are weak, convalescent, nervous, appetiteless, and sleepless persons.

N.B.—University, Grammar, *Music*, and other schools. Private Lessons of every kind are available, so that studies can be continued and the education of children carried on.

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FIRST-CLASS HOTEL.

(Opposite the Railway Station.)

CARL LANDSEE,
Proprietor.

HOTEL DE L'EUROPE.

First-Class Establishment.

Affords every Modern Comfort.

ELECTRIC LIGHT IN EVERY ROOM.
STEAM AND OTHER BATHS.

Anton Hanreich, Proprietor.

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(Opposite the Station.)

FIRST-CLASS HOTEL.

RENOWNED FOR ITS SUPERIOR CUISINE AND WINE.

"RESTAURATEUR" of the SOUTH RAILWAY STATION.

CARL BEER, Proprietor.

HOTEL KREID.

(Next the Station.)

SECOND CLASS.

The above Hotel offers Pension at the most moderate terms for the Winter Season, according to rooms, from fl.3 upwards, rooms included.

RICHLY ILLUSTRATED GUIDES of INNSBRUCK sent on application, by the Proprietors of above Hotels, free of charge.

INTERLAKEN.

RUGEN HOTEL, JUNGFRAUBLICK.

Not to be confounded with HOTEL JUNGFRAU.

Highly respected and fashionable First-class Family Hotel. Situated in the highest and healthiest part of Interlaken. Beautiful views of the Glaciers and the Lakes. Very quiet position. Dustfree. Extensive walks in a large fir-tree forest. Lift. Electric Light in all the rooms. J. OESCH-MÜLLER, *Proprietor and Manager.*

Branch House, Winter Season, Continental Cannes.

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GRAND HOTEL DES ALPES.

200 BEDS. Opposite the Jungfrau, on the Principal Promenade (Höheweg). First-class Family Boarding House. Moderate Terms. Personally conducted by the Proprietor—**T. MATTI.**

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Hotel Goldenes Kreuz.

Facing the Imperial Villa. With Mountain View. Every Modern Comfort.

Fred. EDLINGER, New Proprietor.

AN IDEAL POSITION.

ILFRACOMBE HOTEL.

THE PRINCIPAL AND ONLY HOTEL ON THE SEA SHORE.

THE Finest Private Marine Esplanade in the Kingdom. *Unrivalled Sea Frontage and open Surroundings. Grounds, Five Acres.* 250 *Apartments. Lawn Tennis, Croquet Lawn.* Elegant Salle à Manger. Drawing, Reading, Smoking and Billiard Rooms, and Sumptuous Lounge Hall on the Ground Floor. Passenger Lift. Moderate Tariff. There is attached to the Hotel *one of the Largest Swimming Baths* in the United Kingdom (the temperature of which is regulated). Also well-appointed Private Hot and Cold Sea and Fresh Water Baths, Douche, Shower, &c. H. R. GROVER, *Manager.*

The Ilfracombe Hotel Co., Ltd. To whom all communications should be addressed.

ILFRACOMBE.

THE GRANVILLE.

FIRST-CLASS BOARDING HOUSE WITH MAGNIFICENT SEA VIEWS.

42 BEDROOMS. BATHS. BALCONIES. BILLIARDS.

Finest Drawing Room in Town. BIJOU Guide Gratis.

Special Sanitary Certificate. W. R. FOSTER, Proprietor.

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HOTEL GERMANIA

Opposite the Railway Station and near Steamboat Landing. Post and Telegraph Office next to the House. Telephone No. 28. Table d'Hôte at 1 o'clock. Separate Dinners and Meals à la Carte at all hours. Excellent Table. Kiel and Munich Beer. Dining Halls, Breakfast and Smoking Rooms on the Ground Floor. Restaurant Café with Billiards belonging to the Hotel, and respectfully recommended.

KISSINGEN SPA.

HOTEL DE RUSSIE.

COMPLETELY Reconstructed and Renewed. English and American Residence. Only Hotel in Kissengen with Electric Light in every room. Electric Lift. Excellent Sanitary Arrangements. Baths. Large Garden. Fine Open Situation opposite the Springs and Cur Garden. 140 Rooms.

KONIGSWINTER (Petersberg), Rhine.

HOTEL ON THE PETERSBERG.

One of the most beautiful mountains of the Siebengebirge.

ENTIRELY new building and every comfort. Airy lodging-rooms and Saloons with a fine view, large dining and restaurant rooms. Large plateau with forest and parks, and beautiful shady promenades. Magnificent views in greater variety than from any other point of the Seven Mountains. Every Wednesday, Military Free Concert. Table d'Hôte at 1.15 o'clock; Dinners and Suppers at any hour. Acknowledged good cuisine and choice wines. Post and Telegraph in the house. **Wwe. PETER JOS. NELLES.**

Address for letters and telegrams: **Nelles, Petersberg (Rhine).** Communication with Königswinter directly by a Cog-wheel Railway. Corresponds with all trains of the State Railway and Steamers.

KOPENHAGEN. KOPENHAGEN.

HOTEL KÖNIG VON DÄNEMARK.

FIRST-CLASS HOTEL,

With 100 elegantly-furnished Rooms and Saloons from 2 kr. upwards. Preferred by the travelling public because of its central and open location, overlooking the King's Square.

In the Hotel large newly-furnished only VIENNA CAFÉ, with Restaurant and Confectioner's Shop; in summer with tables and chairs in the open air. Large selection of German, French and English Newspapers. German Waiters. Moderate Prices. Electric Light. Lift. Table d'hôte at 4 o'clock. Sample Rooms for travelling salesmen. Newly fitted water-closets. Hotel Omnibus at the Railroad Depôt.

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HOTEL ORANIENHOF (First Class).

FINEST Situation in its own extensive grounds; a well known and extensively patronised Establishment. Visited by Royalty. Every English comfort. Electric Light, Lift, Lawn Tennis. Conversation, Reading and Billiard Rooms. Mineral Baths.

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FIRST CLASS ESTABLISHMENT.

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Its Principal Islands, Cities, Seaports, Harbours, and Border Lands.
With nearly 50 Maps and Plans.
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BEST STOPPING PLACE on the ITALIAN LAKES.

27 hrs. from London. 17 hrs. from Paris. 4 hrs. from Milan. 7 hrs. from Genoa. 5 hrs. from Lucerne.

THE GRAND HOTEL

OPEN the whole year. Most luxurious and comfortable home for all the seasons in Italy or Switzerland. Patronised by all the Royal Families. Unrivalled situation in the finest climate of Europe; without snow, wind or fog, but with plenty of sunshine. **Entirely adapted for winter residence.** Pronounced by the body Physician of H.M. The King of Bavaria and University—Prof. ALOYS MARTIN—to be the healthiest and best All Seasons Resort. Beautiful walks and mountain excursions. English Church, Doctor, Society. Lift. Private Steamer and Carriages for visitors. Exquisite Cuisine. Moderate charges. Electric Light in every room. Golf.

Messrs. BALLI, Proprietors.

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HOTEL DU LAC.

FIRST-CLASS HOTEL.

Magnificent Establishment, recently enlarged by a New Wing of 100 Rooms. 300 Beds. Splendid situation on the Lake, where the River Reuss issues from it. Next to the General Post Office. Close to the Railway Station and Steamboat Pier. This Establishment has every modern comfort. Lift, Electric Light, Central Steam Heating. Baths de Luxe, open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Beautiful Marble Vestibule and Staircase in the Italian Renaissance.

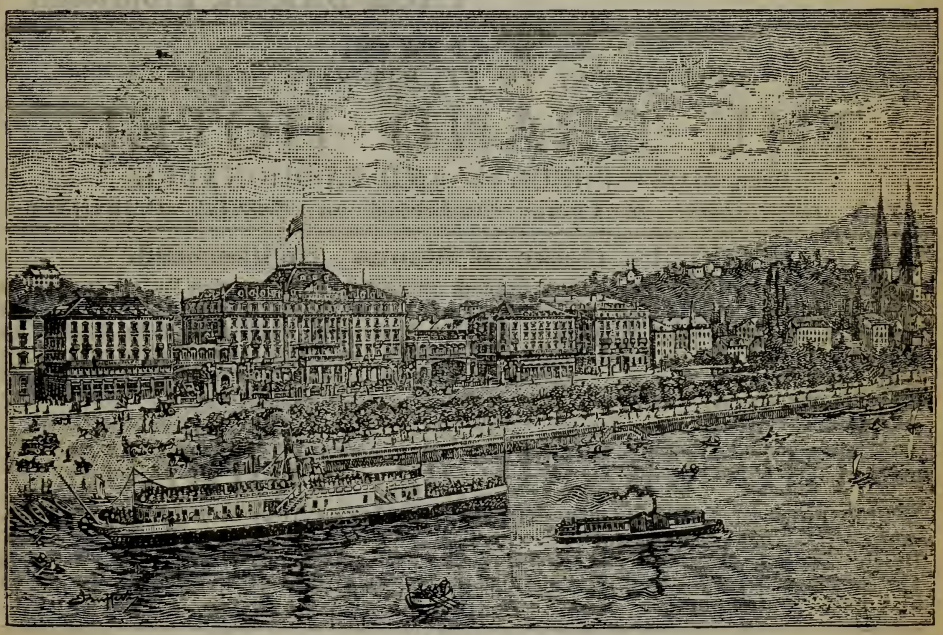
PENSION ARRANGEMENTS FOR A LONG STAY.

OPEN ALL THE YEAR ROUND.

Proprietors: SPILLMANN & SICKERT.

LUCERNE.

Hotels Schweizerhof and Luzernerhof



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Splendid View of the Town and Lake. Near the Station.
MODERATE TERMS.
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LYNTON, NORTH DEVON.
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FIRST-CLASS HOTEL, especially favourite and attractive. Table d'Hôte. Reading and Drawing Rooms. New Smoking and Billiard Pavilions, all Facing the Sea. Magnificent Views, and Ornamental Grounds of Twelve Acres. *ELECTRIC LIGHTING.*

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THE MOST POPULAR AND FASHIONABLE.
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EVERYBODY travelling through BIENNE (Jura-Simplon Ry.) is entitled to break his journey and should not fail to take the Funiculaire (1873 yds., up and down, 1 fr. 50 c.) to Macolin, 3,000 feet. Just the place to stay in Spring and Autumn. See Baedeker and Bradshaw. Grandest View. Sheltered position. Over 1,000 Acres of Woods. Numerous Excursions. Cheap Carriages. Taubenloch Gorges surpassing in loveliness those of Meiringen. Island of St. Pierre. Passion Play Selzach.

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Entirely Fireproof. 90 Bedrooms, 40 with Balconies. Perfect Sanitary Arrangements. Superior Cooking. Late Dinner. Every Comfort. Post, Telegraph, Telephone, in the Hotel. English Chaplain and Resident Physician. Coupons taken. Tennis Court. Letters and Telegrams—"KURHAUS MACOLIN (Switz)." Reduced Terms till July 15th and from September 1st.

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FIRST-CLASS HOTEL. For Families and Tourists. Large and Comfortable. Sunny and Eastern aspect. This Magnificent Establishment is situated in the Valley of the River Saône with a splendid Panoramic View, including that of Mont Blanc. Wines for sale. Omnibus meets all trains. *Special Terms for Motor Cars.*

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Renowned First class House in the most beautiful central location of the town, opposite the Railway Station and the port. Every comfort of modern times at moderate terms. Large Vienna Café with daily Orchestra Concerts. Hotel Restaurant. Baths. Carriages. Dinners kept ready for through-travellers to Stockholm and the interior of Sweden.

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3½ DAYS' VOYAGE.

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SANTA CLARA HOTEL AND ANNEXES.—"Admirably situated, overlooking Funchal; a fine view of the mountains and sea."—*Vide Rendell's Guide to Madeira.*

CARMO HOTEL.—In sheltered central position.

These FIRST CLASS HOTELS afford every comfort for families and travellers. Excellent Cuisine and choice wines. Electric Light throughout. Tennis Courts, large gardens, baths, reading and smoking rooms. English and German newspapers. Billiards. The SANITARY arrangements have been carried out by the Banner Sanitation Co., of London. All Steamers met.

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Carriages at the Hotel. Omnibus at the Station.

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FIRST-CLASS ENGLISH HOUSE, situated in a large garden, full south, far from the sea. Restaurant, Smoking and Reading Rooms. South aspect.

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NEAR THE RAILWAY STATION.

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Perfectly quiet. Every Modern Comfort. Established 35 years. Patronised by English and American Visitors.

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IN the Centre of the City. Opposite the Theatres and Royal Palace. Electric Light, Central Heating, Lift, Telephone in Every Room. Pension. Omnibus at Station. Moderate Charges.

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SPLENDID FIRST-CLASS HOTEL. Situated in the most quiet and fashionable quarter, and near all objects of interest.

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Moderate Charges. M. DIENER, *Proprietor.*

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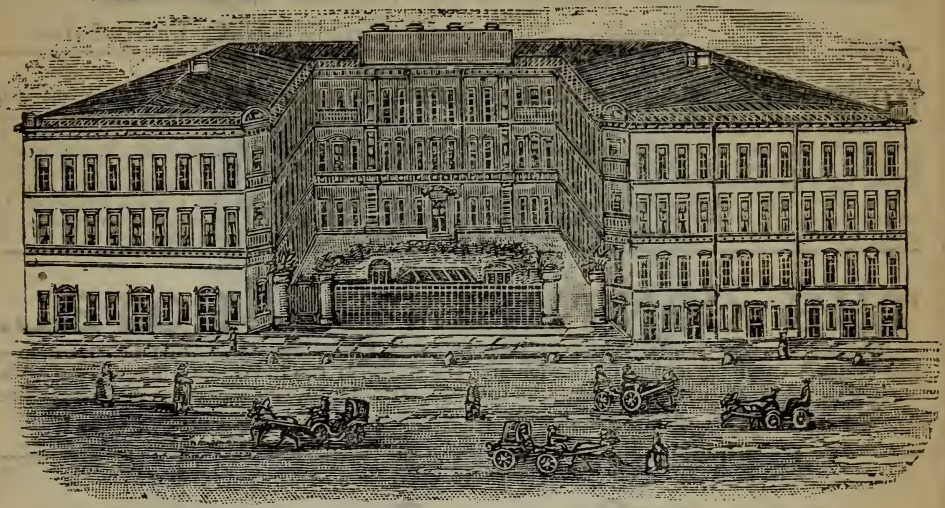
SUMMER GARDEN. 150 BEDS. WINTER GARDEN.



Highly recommended to Tourists. Guides speaking English at the Hotel.

THIS LARGE WELL-KNOWN HOTEL, situated in the best and healthiest part of the City, near the Kremlin and all other places of interest, established over half a century, lately entirely renewed and enlarged, affords First Class Accommodation for Families and Gentlemen. Excellent Kitchen, Table d'Hôte, splendid Grill Room and Restaurant. Good Cellar. Billiard, Smoking, and Reading Rooms, with English, American, German, and French Newspapers. Good Bath Rooms. Hotel Carriages meet all Trains. CLAUSEN BROTHERS, Proprietors (Swiss).

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This Hotel is open all the year round, and Visitors are respectfully requested not to allow themselves to be imposed upon by interested parties and importunate Guides or Porters, as all necessary information is given at the Hotel Bristol for the excursions from Naples, and as to the best shops in the City.

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Open all the year round. Quai Parthenope (New Embankment). Splendid situation—full South. Close to the Public Garden and the centre of the town, with magnificent view of the Bay and Vesuvius. Hydraulic Lift, Electric Light, Telegraph and Post Office. Every kind of baths. Moderate charges. Pension 8 to 12 Francs.

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200 Feet above Sea-Level.

Healthiest and most beautiful situation; close to railway stations for San Martino (funicular), and for Pozzuoli and Baiæ; especially convenient for sightseeing. An English House. Recommended to English and American Visitors. Tariff and Electric Light in every room. Lift. Fixed charges, always including Baths in the Rooms, Light and attendance.

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Near the Sea and Railway Station. 15 Minutes from Genoa. Stopping place for all express trains. Patronised by H.H. the Queen of Portugal, and H.Exc. the Marschell von Moltke.

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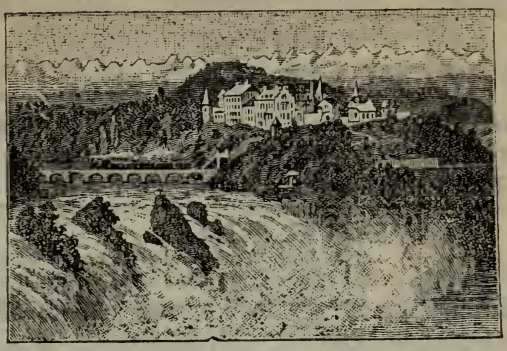
Magnificently situated on the Border of the Lake. Commanding splendid Views of the Panorama of the Alps. Lift. Electric Light in all the Rooms. Garden.

PENSION PRICES ALL THE YEAR ROUND. N.B.—Besides the Evening Train (direct) a Day Train is running between Neuchatel and Paris, and *vice versa.*

CENTRAL HEATING THROUGHOUT.

NEUHAUSEN, SWITZERLAND.

FALLS OF THE RHINE.



VIEW FROM THE HOTEL SCHWEIZERHOF.

FIRST-CLASS HOTEL, replete with every convenience.

200 Rooms. Fire Escapes. Hydraulic Lift.

FINE PARK and GARDENS.

Lawn Tennis—Carriages—Storage for Bicycles—Dark Room.

A Charming Summer Resort, noted for its healthy position, bracing air, and most beautiful landscape.

BY MEANS OF ELECTRICITY AND BENGAL LIGHTS THE FALLS OF THE RHINE ARE **BRILLIANTLY ILLUMINATED** EVERY NIGHT DURING THE SEASON.

English Divine Service in the Church located in the Grounds of the Schweizerhof.

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FIRST-CLASS FAMILY HOTEL. Delightfully situated on Promenade des Anglais. The finest position in Nice. Full south. Great comfort. Hydraulic Lift. Electric Light in every room. Tariff moderate. Special rates *en pension* for a long stay.

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FIRST-CLASS FAMILY HOUSE. Newly rebuilt. **200 Beds.** Most central and best position. Specially patronised by English and Americans. Arrangements made. **Baths. Electric Light and central Heating in Corridors and every Room. Lift.** Omnibus meets all trains. Under the personal management of the Proprietor,

WILLY SCHLENK.

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THIS First-rate and Superior Hotel, situated in the centre of the town, is highly spoken of by English and American Travellers for its general comfort and moderate charges. Has been greatly enlarged, and contains now 100 well-furnished rooms and saloons. Ladies' and Reading Saloon, Smoking Room, &c., and a beautiful large Dining Room. English and Foreign Newspapers. Carriages at the Hotel. Omnibuses to and from each train. English Church in the Hotel; Divine Service every Sunday. Electric Light.

J. AUINGER, Proprietor.

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GREAT OCEAN HOTEL.

(Enlarged and Improved.)

FIRST-CLASS & MOST FASHIONABLE HOTEL & RESTAURANT.

UNRIVALLED FOR THEIR SITUATION. BATH ROOM.

Facing Sea and Baths. Highly Recommended. Lift. Electric Light.

OSTEND.

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Most fashionable part of the Digue, facing Sea.

LIGHTED THROUGHOUT BY ELECTRICITY. LIFT, Etc.

BOARD from 10s. per day.

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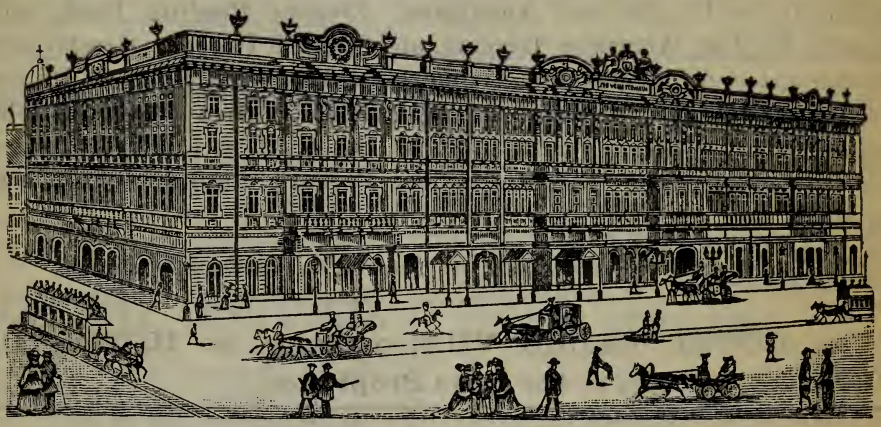

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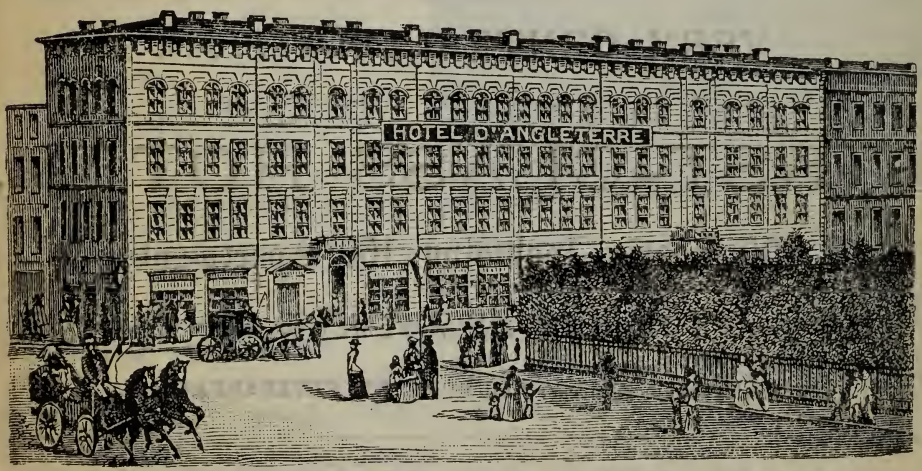

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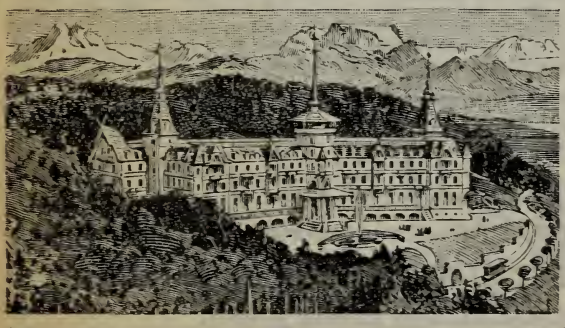

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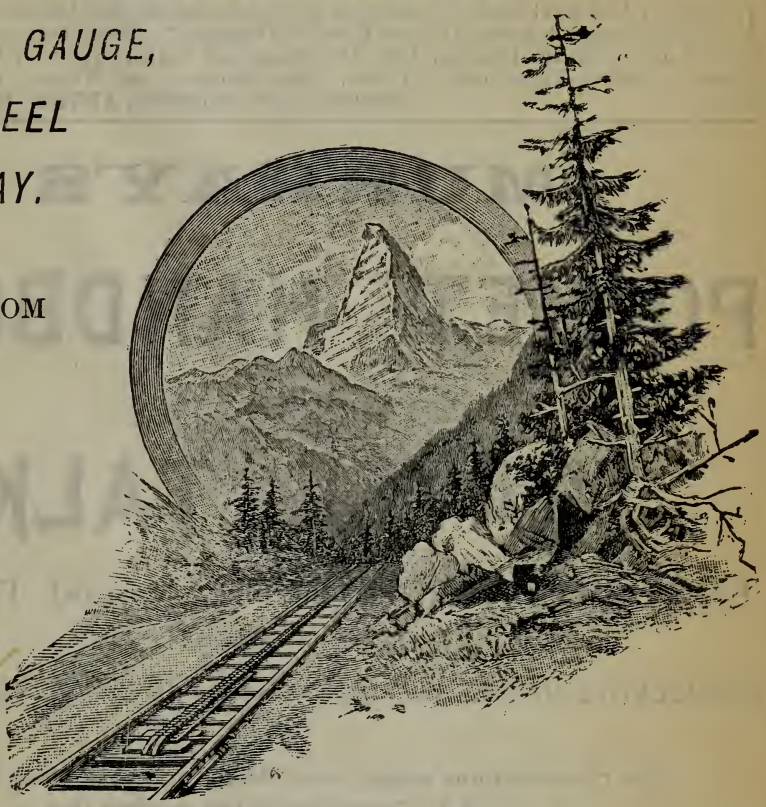

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